

THE TIMES
1785-1985
Tomorrow

Israel's war
In the first of
a three-part series
Robert Fisk assesses
Israel's invasion
of Lebanon
True or false?
New evidence on the
Getty museum's
controversial \$7m painting
the "Annunciation"
Midfielder
David Miller meets
Michael Platini -
the best footballer
in Europe
Real gems
Suzy Menkes on
the boom in
new jewellery

Portfolio

There were no winners of either the £20,000 weekly prize or the £2,000 daily prize in *The Times* Portfolio competition on Saturday. As there is no competition today, tomorrow's daily prize is doubled to £4,000. Next Saturday's weekly prize will be £40,000.

Wall kills 11 campers in France

A collapsing cement wall killed at least 11 people, including five children, at a camp site in the south of France. Another six sleeping campers were injured as the wall damaged by heavy rains, fell on their tents. About 800 holiday-makers were on the site at Saint-Cyr-sur-Mer at the time of the accident. Page 4

Dissident joy

Jack Kuron, one of Poland's leading dissidents, celebrated an unexpected legal victory after a Warsaw court overturned his jail sentence for joining a Solidarity demonstration. Page 11

Pretoria reform

South Africa is to end the prohibition of racially mixed political parties, and the exclusive right of whites to supervisory jobs in mines. Page 6

China trip

In an account published for the first time of a trip to China in 1957, Graham Greene reveals the tensions and troubles within a small group of British travellers. *Spectrum*, page 8

MPs' travel

Commons pressure is increasing to force MPs to declare free overseas travel in the *Register of Members' Interests* because a growing number are failing to comply with the voluntary arrangements. Page 2

Trials death

A young woman was trampled to death by a horse at the Windsor Horse Trials after she was thrown from a horse she had asked to ride. Page 15

Oil price cut

Norway has cut the price of its North Sea crude oil by up to a dollar a barrel, suggesting that petrol prices could drop.

Gooch back

England have recalled Gooch and Willey, after the ending of the South African ban, for the one-day cricket series against Australia. Page 13

ENIGMA

Your last chance to crack the Enigma code... and win two flights to Singapore, plus £1,000, or one of the 25 valuable prizes from British Telecom. See Computer Horizons tomorrow.

Leader page 11
Letters: On universities from Mr M. Taylor and Mr K. Cooper; orchids from Mr A. F. Porter
Leading articles: solidarity trial in Poland; Labelling of goods; Argentina
Features, pages 9, 10
Britain's role in a Middle East plot; how the Falklands could prosper; Scotland's other festival. Monday Page: Aquino's widow, a symbol of hope
Obituary, page 12
Professor Wladyslaw Sluckin, Miss Julia de Lacy Mann

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5,000 feared drowned in Bangladesh tidal waves

By Our Foreign Staff

Rescuers fear that tidal waves whipped up by a cyclone may have claimed 5,000 victims in southern Bangladesh. At least 1,500 people are known to have died, and thousands more have been swept away.

The official toll does not include thousands believed lost when 10ft to 15ft waves crashed over the tiny island of Utrichar, in the island-dotted mouth of the sacred River Ganges.

One report said that some of the 10,000 people on the island had fled before the waves hit on Saturday. Only a family of four has been plucked from the

Some of the worst natural disasters recorded in the past 100 years include:

Floods, Hwang-ho River, China, 1887	900,000 dead
Cyclone/tidal wave, Ganges Delta islands, East Pakistan (Bangladesh), 1970	200,000-500,000
Landslide, Kansu province, China, 1920	180,000
Volcano/tidal wave, Krakatoa, Indonesia, 1883	36,000
Avalanches, Dolomites, Italy, 1916	18,000
Earthquake/avalanches, Yungay, Peru, 1970	18,000
Dam burst, Manuccu River dam, Gujarat, India, 1979	5,000

rough seas of the Bay of Bengal. No contact can be established with the island, which had been inhabited only for four years. But the crew of a plane which flew over reported everything swept away.

Attempts to find the thousands missing were beaten back by heavy rain which caused fresh floods in low-lying areas, officials said last night.

A television reporter who visited the area said nearly half the 10,000 population of Utrichar may have been killed. Army helicopters and naval

patrol boats are conducting a mass search for victims of the waves, which caused havoc to houses, crops and fishing-boats, officials said. Winds of 80mph were also reported.

The cyclone and waves engulfed the areas of Noakhali, Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Patuakhali and Bhola, and the islands of Sandwip, Utrichar and Kutubdia.

State television last night reported at least 1,500 bodies recovered, and the toll is certain to rise as information flows in from remote areas.

He feared that most villagers from Utrichar were "probably washed away from this low-lying area and buried in the bay". More than 5,000 people living on the near by Sandwip Island are also believed to have been hit hard.

The Relief Minister, Mahabub Jan Choudhury, said after touring the affected areas that the final toll might not be as alarming as was feared.

President Hossain, Mohammad Ershad yesterday scrapped a Cabinet meeting and cancelled all official engagements before flying to Sandwip and Hatia to supervise rescue operations. He has ordered \$400,000 (about £310,000) set aside for relief operations.

President Ershad visited islands where tens of thousands are facing shortages of drinking water, food and fuel, and saw hundreds of people being treated in hospitals.

Mr Choudhury said the number of victims was unlikely to be as great as in two disasters in 1962 and 1970 which killed 25,000 and more than 100,000 respectively.

DELHI: Floods have cut roads and electricity throughout Tripura state and forced the evacuation of 1,000 people after torrential rains. The Press Trust of India said yesterday (AFP reports).

New pit strike fears as NCB denies split

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The coal industry faces the threat of an all-out strike by pit deputies, whose overtime ban today goes into its second week without any serious prospect of peace talks.

Leaders of the deputies' union Nacods are circulating to colliery branches details of a secret "hard line" management communication that spells out stringent measures to be taken against overmen whose actions disrupt production.

The six-page document has been supplied to the union by mine managers who sympathize with their industrial action against the National Coal Board's closure of pits before the modified review procedure agreed with Nacods last October can begin operating.

Mr Peter McNestry, general secretary of Nacods, said last night: "The board wants a showdown. They have had such a long battle with the miners

they have lost all commonsense. They don't want agreements any more; they just want to fight unions and break unions".

The coal board went to unusual lengths yesterday to deny that it was split in its tactics for combating the deputies' action, but speculation persists that the tough line being taken by Mr Ian MacGregor, its chairman, is unpopular with some managers at coal headquarters and in the collieries.

Mr James Cowan, deputy chairman of the coal board, said in a statement: "I refute absolutely the allegation of a revolt within the board over action being taken concerning the officials' union Nacods. The board are united, as are the area directors with whom I am in regular contact."

The management document, dated May 9, which is circulating among deputies, states that area managers should make "every effort" to persuade the officials to work normally and in the event of a dispute, "the board will have to take stringent measures to deal with it".

Those could involve stopping the pay of deputies who turn up later than they are told to; the docking of incentive bonuses; and the sending home of men. "If they send people home, the situation will change rapidly. If anything, MacGregor is

Continued on back page, col 5



Smoke pouring (above) from the bow section of the Petragon One as she sinks after the blast and rescuers (left) taking an injured sailor to a first-aid post.

25 killed as blast sinks tankers near Gibraltar

From Richard Wigg in Madrid and Rodney Cowton in La Linea

At least 25 people were killed and more than 40 injured yesterday when a huge explosion destroyed two tankers near La Linea, across the bay from Gibraltar. Officials, who said it had been the worst shipping disaster in modern times, later put the number of dead at at least 34.

It is feared there are bodies trapped in the hulks of the vessels, and that the death toll could reach 40. The cause of the blast is not known.

The Petragon One, a 30,000-tonne Japanese chartered tanker, exploded while discharging highly-inflammable naphtha, the explosion set fire to an 8,000-tonne Spanish tanker, the Campanavia, which was moored close by and loading petrol.

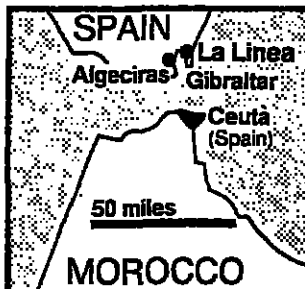
Flames leapt hundreds of feet and bodies were thrown into the air, later to be picked up by tugs from Algeciras and Gibraltar assisted by fishing vessels.

All yesterday afternoon tugs played jets of water on the remains of the ships. Of the Petragon One there was nothing visible above the surface apart from a few mangled sheets of steel strewn over the jetty to which it had been moored.

The Campanavia had broken its back, with the bow and stern sections pointing skywards.

The explosion was heard up to 50 miles away at Fuengirola, from where a cloud of grey smoke, several thousand feet high, could be seen. Throughout the afternoon thick black acrid smoke, and occasional bursts of flame, poured from the Campanavia.

The ships had been moored about 400 yards from an oil refinery just outside the tiny village of Puente Mayorga, about three miles from La Linea. A 20-yard gash was blown in the jetty.



on shore. Senor Felix Ruiz, who was in charge of the refinery - yesterday, said it remained in production.

Pipes leading from the jetty to the refinery were closed, and water was played on them.

The dead and injured were taken to hospital in Algeciras and La Linea. The 29-member crew of Petragon One was mainly Japanese; the Campanavia had an all-Spanish crew of 30.

The explosion occurred just after 11am as many inhabitants of suburbs near the refinery were preparing to go for a day on adjacent beaches. The blast caused panic, with people rushing out into the streets from their homes.

The authorities broadcast appeals for calm, emphasizing that the flames had not reached the refinery.

Senor Eugenio Marin, general manager of the Spanish state petrol company, Cepas, said the oil slick in the bay would not damage local beaches.

Inquiry by MPs over Lear Fan

By Our Political Staff

The Commons Select Committee of Public Accounts is to investigate the collapse of the Lear Fan jet project, which has received £27 million of government investment.

But MPs will want to know why the all-party committee failed to give due warning of the impending crisis. It is understood that Sir Gordon Downey, the Controller and Auditor General, had examined the project, but that the select committee failed to take evidence or issue a report.

Mr Nicholas Montyton, Conservative MP for Macleanfield, and one of the more determined critics of the De Lorean car project - also based in Northern Ireland - said yesterday that he had made representations to Dr Rhodes Boyson, the Northern Ireland industry minister, about Lear Fan. He said: "There was not a cat in hell's chance of it succeeding."

He said that the Government had lost at least £68 million on De Lorean and that such large sums, if invested in small business in Northern Ireland, could have created thousands of jobs.

Coventry doom Norwich to the drop

Coventry City ensured that Norwich City rather than themselves would be relegated from the first division by winning their last match of the season 4-1 yesterday against Everton, the League champions.

The Norwich manager, Ken Brown, made no complaint upon hearing the news. Page 14

Campbell in sabotage crash

From Our Correspondent

Miss Gina Campbell, the world water speed record holder, narrowly escaped death in the Fowey Cornwall power boat race yesterday after some-one tampered with her boat. Experts were investigating after two other boats in the race had also been found to have been sabotaged.

Miss Campbell, whose father Donald died in a record attempt on Lake Coniston and who herself survived a high speed crash last year, was neck and neck with the leaders of yesterday's race when her gear box and propeller sheared off at 60 miles an hour.

Her boat, Agfa Bluebird IV spun through 180 degrees, missed other front-running craft by only a few feet, and narrowly escaped overturning in choppy seas.

Miss Campbell, aged 37, and her co-driver, Mike Standring, escaped unhurt when disaster struck one third of the way through the 70 mile UK Offshore Boating Association race which had been postponed from Saturday because of bad weather.

Miss Campbell said: "We're lucky to be alive. It was a deliberate attempt at sabotage. If we had hit one of the other boats which were just a few feet away or if we'd capsized as we went broadside into the waves we would have been killed. I can't believe anyone would want me dead."

Miss Campbell's sponsors, Agfa, plan to tighten security for her race in Jersey next month. A "race spokesman" said: "The chief scrutineer examined all three fit and is satisfied that they were sabotaged. There will be no official investigation but we do not intend to bring in the police."

TAKE A NEW LOOK AT KING PENGUIN...

1982 JANINE Alasdair Gray
A remarkable black humourist...
deeper - almost flawless -
deeper - George Melly in the
Sunday Times 'Books of the Year'
\$3.95

THE PORK BUTCHER
David Hughes
Winner of the NZL Smith
Literary Award 1985
An unforgettable experience...
written with extraordinary
elegance - Observer £2.95

ANGELS
Tennis Johnson
Poems of amazing power and
style... a small masterpiece
- Philip Roth in the Sunday
Times 'Books of the Year' £2.95

GODDESS
Glyn Hughes
Triumphantly individual, mingling
the eerie, the sombre and the
rhapsodic in writing of inescapable
power - Observer £2.95

DANGEROUS PLAY
Andrew Motion
Winner of the 1984 John
Llewellyn Rhys Memorial Prize
A masterly collection from one of
the most original and influential
poets of his generation £2.95

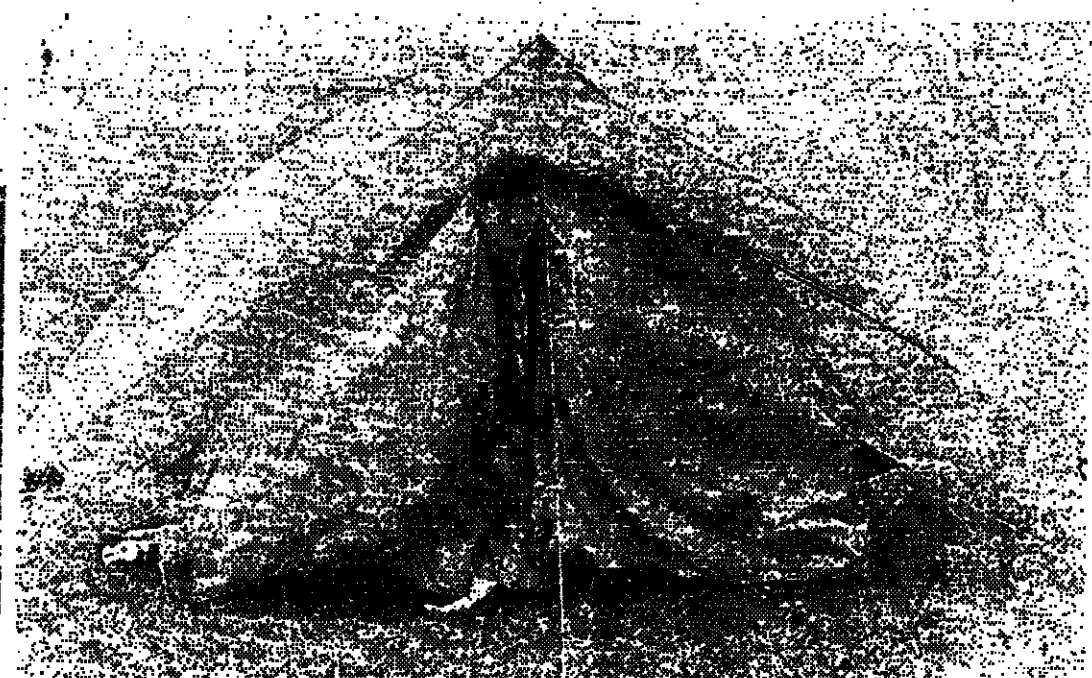
PARALLEL LIVES
Five Victorian Marriages
Phyllis Rose
Outstanding... brilliantly evokes
these ink-fingered unions before
the bright coal fires
- Norman St John Stevas in the
Sunday Times 'Books of the Year'
£3.95



The British bank holiday weekend - with everything from hamburgers to flash floods



Weather permitting: Bank holiday weekenders warmed up with hamburgers at RAF Mildenhall's air fête (photograph: Warren Harrison) but Scouts at a camp in Middle Wallop, Hampshire, had their hands full preventing tents from taking off in a gale (photograph: Dod Miller). At Torquay, the "English Riviera" woke up to flash floods yesterday.



Trail of havoc in storms

By Patricia Clough

Fierce thunderstorms swept across south-east England yesterday leaving a trail of floods and wrecked cars. Three families in Stanford-la-Hope, Essex, were left homeless after their houses were hit by lightning. More bolts of lightning caused fires at houses in Gosport, Basingstoke and Farnborough, Hampshire, while the telephone at New Milton police station in Hampshire and Littlehampton police station in Sussex were put out of action.

Many roads across the south of England were flooded. Near Chelmsford, Essex, fire crews were called to free people trapped after cars aquaplaned off the road and crashed. Firemen received more than 100 calls for help from people whose houses were flooded in the area from Harlow to Tilbury, where police were inundated with calls as lightning triggered off dozens of burglars and fire alarms.

In Bournemouth, Reading and Great Yarmouth the holiday was marred by violence and offences by holidaymakers and a total of 64 people were arrested.

Weather forecast, back page

Pressure mounts for MPs to declare free trips

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

Commons pressure is building up to force MPs to declare free overseas travel and other business inducements in the Register of Members' Interests. Some MPs on the select committee of members' interests believe that the existing voluntary arrangements for registration are being discredited by the growing number of Commons colleagues failing to make full or adequate declarations.

A committee report on commercial and industrial lobbying of MPs by pressure groups attempting to exert an influence on government policy is thought to have confined itself to a repeat appeal to MPs to make full declarations. The report is to be published on June 13.

The Times reported earlier this month that at least seven Conservative and Labour MPs had failed to register visits made to the Middle East last year, as guests of the Israeli government, the Arab League and the Palestine Liberation

Organization, and it is understood that a number of MPs who went to Hong Kong as guests of the administration also failed to register those visits.

Pressure for a clampdown is bound to be increased by reports yesterday that four members of the Conservative backbench aviation committee had been flown to the United States last September, visiting New York, Chicago and Atlanta - to study American airports policy.

Only one of the MPs had declared the visit, although the register calls for declaration of "overseas visits relating to or arising out of membership of the House where the cost of any such visit has not been wholly borne by the member or by public funds."

Mrs Angela Rumbold, Conservative MP for Mitcham and Morden and parliamentary private secretary to Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for

Transport, is one of five Conservative MPs who was flown to Rio de Janeiro on a British Airways inaugural flight earlier this month.

She said yesterday that she had been "surprised" to learn that it was necessary to register the flight. She said: "My job was to go out and wave the flag for Britain. If British industry is to get off the ground, they are going to get support from wherever they can. I despair of the tendency to be petty-minded about efforts to sell British industry overseas."

The select committee report is thought to have avoided the question of MPs' responsibilities when faced by direct company or commercial lobbying. It is understood that it calls for stronger controls on the use of parliamentary facilities by lobbyists, the growing army of companies which sells its services as go-betweens in the lucrative business of initiating and changing government policy.

Coal price talks to drag on

By John Lawless

The Central Electricity Generating Board and the National Coal Board are discussing how much coal should be stocked at power stations next year, and how quickly those stocks should be paid for.

The Department of Energy, meanwhile, is determined to see that power stations should not be left vulnerable to any possible future strike action by miners.

The issue - and next year's price of coal, which also has to be settled - is crucial to both state industries. They have had their financial performances totally distorted in the past financial year by pit closures.

Future stocking levels will substantially affect how they appear to recover from the miners' strike and, ultimately, could affect electricity or coal prices paid by the consumer.

But negotiations are so protracted that the size of power station coal stocks, and the price per tonne for the financial year 1986-87, is unlikely to be settled before November.

The CEBG is by far the coal board's biggest customer and is presently taking two million tonnes of coal each week. Mr John Baker, a CEBG board member, said: "We will take every type of coal they can deliver to our power stations."

However, although it is using coal at that rate, CEBG stocks will not get back to the pre-strike level of 25 million tonnes by the end of the financial year, next March, he said.

At issue is the level to which they should be raised - and if they need to go as high again, given the increasing role of nuclear power in Britain's electricity-generation programme.

Mr John Uttley, the CEBG's director of finance, said that, just before the strike, it was holding six million tonnes of coal above its needs. This had been taken from the coal board as an "accelerated delivery", because the NCB was having difficulty stocking what was then excess production from pits.

Those stocks had not been paid for at the time, he said. The £270 million was handed over as the miners' dispute depleted its stocks.

The cost to the CEBG goes considerably beyond the price it pays for steam coal, discounted as a bulk purchaser, of almost \$45 a tonne.

A detailed breakdown of the cost of the miners' strike to the CEBG will be contained in the board's annual report, to be published on August 1. Executives refused to comment on speculation that it is as high as £2,000 million. It will almost certainly be shown to be much lower in real terms, perhaps about £1,300 million, because, for example, increased oil purchases are balanced by lower coal stock costs.

Mixed reception for N-waste project

By a Staff Reporter

There has been fast and divided reaction in the north of Scotland to the announcement that the Government wishes to build a £200 million nuclear reprocessing plant at Dounreay in Caithness.

The region is one of the strongest supporters of nuclear industry, which has been the main employer in the Thurso, Wick area for more than 25 years.

The news that the reprocessing operation is to be expanded to take waste material from Europe was welcomed by the Caithness District Council and by Mr Robert MacLennan, SDP MP for Caithness and Sutherland.

He said that provided the safeguards against environmental pollution were satisfactory it could be hoped that the project would secure for Britain an important share of the industrial and scientific work on fast reactors.

Mr John Young, chairman of the district council, said that most people actively supported the plant, which would help to secure the future of Dounreay. The nuclear establishment there employs about 2,000 people directly and many more indirectly.

In the Orkney Islands, 25 miles away across the Pentland Firth, the reaction was hostile. Orkney Islands council said that the expansion of nuclear indus-

try with more discharges into the Firth could damage severely the fishing, fish farming, agricultural and tourist industries in the islands.

Mr Jim Wallace Liberal MP for Orkney and Shetland, said that the plan was unacceptable and demanded a public inquiry. The Orkney Movement also objected on environmental grounds because the Orkney economy depended on pollution-free seas.

Orkadians said that they had not been impressed by the record of the reprocessing plant at Sellafield in Cumbria, and they feared having the same incidents from Dounreay, which they said would have a catastrophic effect on the Orkney Islands.

Mr Clifford Blumfield, director of the Dounreay establishment, said that fuel would arrive from Germany and France and from their own commercial demonstration fast reactor.

It would be reprocessed to a powder form of plutonium and uranium which could then be refabricated into new fuel.

He said that the discharges into the sea would be no greater from a much larger reprocessing plant than they were from the existing plant.

He added that the radiation dose to the public from Dounreay was equivalent to about one-twelfth of that discharged from a coal-fired power station.

Police look into lecture tour scheme

By a Staff Reporter

Police are investigating a scheme which promised lucrative overseas lecture tours to academics in Britain. The invitations would have taken them to such places as Hawaii, Barbados and Nice.

Professor Keith Runcorn, a physicist at Newcastle University who is on a lecture tour of the United States, was told in his invitation that he had been selected as a key participant in the "Research Trend Symposium of Geophysics" at an expenses-paid conference in Barbados next September. But the organizers asked for a registration fee of £75 which would be returned.

The invitation was passed to the trading standards department of Tynes and Wear Metropolitan Council, which alerted other areas.

Dismissal of Ulster police chief sought

By a Staff Reporter

The Government was urged yesterday to dismiss Sir John Hermon, Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, in the wake of the dispute that developed after the Provisional IRA killed four officers in a border bomb attack.

Mr Seamus Mallon, deputy leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, accused Sir John of being an arrogant and self-righteous man.

He said that if he would not resign the Government should dismiss him.

Sir John, who is appointed by the Northern Ireland Police Authority and not the Government, refused to comment at an Ulster Defence Regiment passing out parade in Co Down on the cross order recriminations.

Air watch on tankers urged

Small spy planes should be used to spot ships who spill oil to cut costs, a Euro MP said today.

Mr Alex Falconer, MEP for Mid Scotland and Fife, wants the European Parliament to bring all main ports into line with the Shetland Islands where every oil tanker within 100

miles of the huge Sullom Voe oil terminal is tracked by an aircraft.

Tankers would be compelled to carry ballast all the time in a third of their holds and to pump out water only at approved treatment plants, to remove the financial incentive to dump ballast when coming into port.

Brecon and Radnor by-election

By Tim Jones

If Labour wins the forthcoming by-election in Brecon and Radnor then the Government will know that it has more than a bout of mid-term discontent on its hands. It will be dealing with a hurricane.

Boundary changes two years ago effectively severed from the constituency 10,000 voters who live in the South Wales Labour heartland. Without them, it has become the kind of sprawling agricultural entity that Conservatives must win if they are to have any hope of enjoying a third term.

The by-election has been caused by the death of Mr Tom Hooson, who first won the seat for the Conservatives in 1979 with a majority of 2,446. He retained it in 1983, increasing his majority to 8,784, a reflection of Mrs Thatcher's popularity and the effect of boundary changes. In that election, only 245 votes separated Labour from the Alliance candidate in third place.

Before 1979, the seat had been held by Labour for 34 years until Mr Caerwyn Roderick lost it in the swing against

his party caused by the so-called winter of discontent.

While Conservative Central Office ponders opinion polls which show them trailing Labour and the Alliance, a split is developing between London and Welsh Tory MPs on when the by-election should be held.

Mrs Thatcher and her advisers are thought to favour an early date, possibly after the Welsh Conservative Party conference in June, which the Prime Minister will use to eulogize the Government's achievements. A quick election, it is argued, would prevent a long and possibly damaging contest into the autumn.

But Welsh Tory MPs, led by Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for the Welsh Office, are pressing for a September or October date in support of the local constituency association which believes its candidate, Mr Christopher Butler, should have plenty of time to get to know one of the largest share seats in Britain.

The Conservatives can be thankful that the agricultural industry which dominates the constituency is primarily beef and sheep, a factor that will

Lecturers to seek fresh strike round

By David Jobbins
of The Times Higher Education Supplement

College lecturers are to plan a further round of selective strikes beginning in the new academic year in a co-operative campaign with other teacher unions.

Their union is also to take steps to tighten a ban on voluntary duties.

The National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education is pursuing a 20.5 per cent pay claim and its members, who have been involved in one-day strikes, have rejected a 4 per cent offer.

Its annual conference in Plymouth yesterday called for action to be intensified. Delegates supported a plan for organization with the other teacher unions ready for what they believe will be a protracted campaign. Union leaders are also to consider ways of extending action, at present mainly a ban on overtime and a refusal to cover for absent colleagues, to other duties.

Those may include a refusal to co-operate with collection of student fees.

Proposals for selective strikes are to be brought before the union's national council in July. The National Association of Head Teachers, Britain's biggest head teacher union with 21,000 members, is to decide at a private session of its annual conference, which opens at Scarborough tomorrow, whether to throw open its membership to deputy heads.

Legion call for N-test payments

The Royal British Legion

annual conference at Brighton yesterday passed an emergency resolution urging the Government to pay compensation to ex-servicemen who claim they have suffered from the effects of radiation from British nuclear tests in the Pacific.

Policeman is given bail

Alwyn Robert Sawyer, aged

44, a Merseyside police sergeant, of Eamont Avenue, Southport, appeared before magistrates at Southport on Saturday charged with the murder of Henry Foley aged 67, a pensioner, of Pitt Street, Southport, in police custody on February 12.

Mr Sawyer was remanded on unconditional bail until June 28.

River scheme to entice birds

Work has started on a scheme to entice the Kingfisher to the heart of Birmingham by improving seven miles of the river Cole from the city centre to the outskirts.

The Scheme, to provide riverside pools and wet areas, overhanging greenery and possibly new banks is being mounted by Birmingham and Solihull councils, the West Midlands County Council and the Severn-Trent Water Authority.

Women fill cells

Police cells in the Thames Valley were yesterday full with women who invaded Greenham Common airbase. The 82 women, who refused to give their names to police, were held in detention cells at stations in Reading, Slough, Windsor, High Wycombe, Oxford, Didcot and Abingdon. Most were expected to appear in court at Newbury today.

Prisoner dies

John Jackson, aged 18, a prisoner at Wellingborough Youth Custody Centre, collapsed and died yesterday during a training run for the centre's sports day. He was sentenced at Wolverhampton Crown Court to 30 months, youth custody last year for unlawful wounding and grievous bodily harm.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$12.50, Belgium 8 frs 50, Canada \$12.50, Denmark 40 kr, France 70 frs, Germany 120 DM, Greece 120 dr, Hong Kong \$12.50, India 120 rupee, Ireland 120 p, Italy 120 lire, Japan 120 yen, Korea 120 won, Luxembourg 120 franc, Netherlands 120 guilder, New Zealand 120 dollar, Norway 120 krone, Portugal 120 escudo, Singapore 120 dollar, South Africa 120 rand, Sweden 120 krona, Switzerland 120 franc, Taiwan 120 dollar, Thailand 120 baht, United Kingdom 120 p, USA 120 cent, Yugoslavia 120 dinar.

Fear that jet project may restart in US

From Richard Ford
Belfast

Coming two years after the De Lorean debacle, the collapse of the Lear Fan aircraft project, another joint British-American enterprise, is a big embarrassment to the Government and a blow to the image of Northern Ireland.

It had been hoped that the executive jet project could provide 2,800 jobs in the United Kingdom's worst unemployment area but instead the saga has highlighted for the second time in two years the danger of investing large amounts of public money into high-risk technological ventures.

Already government strategy in the province has altered with increasing emphasis on encouraging small business to develop rather than backing grandiose schemes promising larger spin-offs in employment.

Industrial support is made available only for projects for which substantial finance is provided by the private sector and the Government will argue that Lear Fan is in this category as private investment has put more than \$100 million (£80 million) into the scheme.

The decision by the Lear Fan board to cease trading came after the 10-seat executive jet failed recent certification tests carried out by the US Federal Aviation authority. With cash running out, the directors had little alternative but to end work on the jet. Make of carbon fibres and powered by two engines driven by a single rear-mounted propeller, it had been hailed as the "plastic aeroplane".

Two hundred workers at the firm's plant in Reno, Nevada, will lose their jobs along with the 27 remaining at plants in Newtownabbey and Antrim in Northern Ireland. These had never employed more than 400 people and in the past few months suspicion grew that instead of producing the plane the two plants would never do anything more than supply parts to be shipped to the US for assembly.

It is understood that Northern Ireland's industrial develop-



The ill-fated Lear Fan "plastic aircraft".

Timetable of events

Mid-70s: William Lear thinks up idea of a revolutionary jet.

1977: Lear sets out specifications for aircraft.

1978: Lear dies. Moya, his wife promises to carry on the project.

1980: Conservative Government gives financial help with the prospect of jobs in Northern Ireland when aircraft is produced by mid-1982.

1981: January: First prototype on schedule. April: chief executive resigns and joins rival Beechcraft firm.

1982: Summer: Project exceeds budget and is behind schedule. Britain provides additional financing of \$35 million. Re-financing agreement brings in Zoyia Consortium providing \$60 million of private investment. Company restructured with the Government shareholding reduced from option to acquire 40 per cent of authorized share capital to 5 per cent stake. Saudis take 85

per cent. Learfan Research Limited partnership, arranged by a New York firm which raised private investment cash, 6 per cent; Lear, 3 per cent; widow 1 per cent.

1983: November: Failures develop in simulated tests.

1984: January: Total of 94 workers laid off in N. Ireland. February: Three-day week for 380 workers in province. April: Two-day week for N. Ireland workers, company's director of operations leaves Learfan and N. Ireland, further test failures and delays. May: Total of 46 redundancies in N. Ireland. October: Authorization for test flights from US Federal Aviation Authority. December: Saudi backers provide more finance.

1985: February: Technical problems in gearbox lead to 100 laid off at Reno and prediction that it will get certificate of airworthiness by January 1986. May: Company decides to cease trading.

dream of aviation pioneer Mr William Lear in 1980 as part of increasingly desperate attempts to attract investment to the province.

Mr Fraser Agnew, Official Unionist Assembly member for South Antrim, said: "We can only hope that following De Lorean the Government will now perhaps learn the lesson that instead of pumping millions into high-risk US projects, money would be better used tapping the entrepreneurial skills of local people."

But it was Mr Terry Carlin, of the Irish congress of trade unions who demanded a

Commons inquiry into the affair which, although it has not raised suspicions of misappropriation of funds, has raised the question of whether there is sufficient government control when such large amounts of public money are being spent.

"It was predictable. I will be asking the public accounts committee to find out why the Government have continued to fund this company for the last two years when it was clear there was not a snowball's chance in hell of getting anything like the number of jobs promised," he said.

The Government has been told of the decision to cease trading but Dr Rhodes Boyson, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, will not comment until a further company statement has been issued in the US. There will be deep dismay among officials at this latest setback though it was recognized that there were risks and that chances have to be taken if jobs are to come to the province.

But the words of Mr Adam Butler, the former industry minister, now haunt his successors, for he said of Lear Fan that it was no Dr Lorean "except in so far as it might not succeed".

Where the Lear Fan project differed from the DeLorean sports car dream is that private investors have sunk more than \$100 million in an attempt to realize one man's dream. The jet was the inspiration of Mr Lear who had been responsible for one of the world's most successful executive jets and in the 1970s conceived the idea of developing an aircraft, using carbon fibres.

The Government provided an additional \$35 million and assisted in refinancing operation in which two groups competed to become involved. Under this agreement the Zoyia Corporation a consortium led by American Mr Bob Burch and two Saudi princes put up \$60 million as Britain insisted that for every pound of public money two pounds must be provided by private investment.

But it was Mr Terry Carlin, of the Irish congress of trade unions who demanded a

150-160

Debenhams set to expand home sales chain after success of £95 package

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

The home centres in Debenhams' stores, where a house-owner can sell a home for £95 plus VAT, are set for expansion, after the success of the first six. The chain store, which has opened five home centres since the first at Guildford last July, is expecting to provide another five by the end of this year and a further 15 in 1986.

In the next two months, the company plans to open two in Southampton and Bristol, followed by Croydon and probably Chelmsford and Bournemouth by the end of the year.

Since opening, the home-centres have completed transactions worth £24 million and have sold six out of every 10 properties placed with them.

Mr Christie-Miller, operations director for Debenhams home-centres, says the home-centres are an example of enterprise which works because it provides customers with the service they want. For the estate agents who are losing business, it is a serious matter.

At their Harrow store, they get an average of 20 instructions a week, selling an average of 12, while some of the local agents have to be satisfied with two or three.

Every vendor and every buyer who registers with them is entitled to a 5 per cent discount on carpets, furniture and soft furniture from the stores. Other benefits are available. It is a

More export frauds suspected by police

By Stewart Tindler, Crime Reporter

Detectives and Whitehall officials investigating frauds based on payment by the Export Credit Guarantee Department have uncovered a new group of suspicious companies or projects which may take the department's losses well into many millions of pounds.

In the past few months, department sources have put the loss from fraud at about £2 million, but, according to a source close to Whitehall last week, the real figure is considerably more than £10 million.

That could rise fast as investigators begin sifting details of companies or overseas projects which have surfaced after research by the department's own staff or City of London detectives.

The ECOD will this week start examining its records for details of companies trading with Nigeria which have aroused police suspicions. The department has also asked police to check the background to several projects for which claims were met. The companies and projects go back at least several years.

No one is yet prepared to hazard a guess at the final size of the fraud but even an estimated figure may not show the true extent of the fraudsters' work. There is suspicion that a number of City institutions handling trade finance could also have been caught and have yet to complain to the police, possibly because of ignorance or embarrassment.



Horse play: Zara Phillips with Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips at Windsor Horse Trials on Saturday. Report, page 15 (Photograph: Julian Herbert)

Juvenile crime is falling, report says

Recorded juvenile crime is falling, according to a report published today by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders.

The report, *Juvenile Crime*, shows that in 1983 the number of known juvenile offenders in England and Wales was 10 per cent less than in 1974.

A total of 167,900 juvenile offenders under 17, were cautioned or sentenced for indictable offences in 1983. The number of known juvenile offenders rose steeply during the 1950s and 1960s, but fluctuated during the 1970s.

In the past few years there has been a levelling off, and the 10 per cent decrease compared with a steady increase in the number of young adult offenders aged 17 to 20, up 40 per cent from 1974 to 1983, and adult offenders aged 21 and above, up 36 per cent.

The drop in juvenile crime may partly reflect a drop in the juvenile population the report says, but the drop since 1974 has been sharper than the fall in the juvenile population.

The peak age for offending remains at 15 for males and 14 for females.

The report shows that most juvenile crime is minor and non-violent: only 8 per cent of indictable offences committed by juveniles involve violence, sex or robbery.

Most juvenile offences are of theft and handling stolen goods, which accounted for 61 per cent of offences committed by boys and 86 per cent by girls in 1983.

There has been an increasing use of custody for juveniles, and the use of social work supervision for delinquents has declined.

The report says that there is growing evidence that intermediate treatment - counselling and training - can be more effective than other measures in reducing re-offending.

Juvenile Crime, (MACRO, 169 Clapham Road, London, SW9, free).

Fun-packed BR litter campaign

British Rail will today distribute 50,000 fun packs containing games, competitions and colouring sets to children at many stations as part of an anti-litter campaign.

The sets are designed to reinforce the campaign's message. BR is contributing to the national "Beautiful Britain" scheme organized by Keep Britain Tidy.

Another part of the BR campaign will be to make all stations in Cornwall litter-free zones. At present more than 70 stations in England and Wales meet the standards agreed by BR and Keep Britain Tidy for "litter-free" status.

Mr Ivor Warburton, BR's director of passenger marketing services, said: "Litter is anti-social and ruins the environment for everyone. We want people who drop litter on our stations to feel guilty."

BR has increased the number of litter bins at stations and is introducing "heavy-cleaning gangs" to tackle dirt and grime.

More profit in free-range eggs

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The high prices that buyers are prepared to pay for free-range eggs make them almost four times as profitable as battery-produced eggs, according to a study by the National Agriculture Centre.

In trials, free-range hens produced fewer and smaller eggs, ate more feed and had a higher mortality rate than caged birds, but an average wholesale price of 74p a dozen, against 47p produced an annual margin of more than £8 a bird, compared with £2.31 for those housed in battery cages.

Although demand for free-range eggs is increasing, it is not expected to exceed more than about 20 per cent of the total market.

Demands by animal welfare groups for a ban on cages have been dismissed on the grounds that it would lead to a flood of cheap imports.

Tough test of survival on Rockall

By Ronald Faxx

Mr Tom McClean, a former SAS soldier and trans-atlantic sailor, was last night preparing to spend his second uncomfortable day on Rockall, the storm-swept westerly outpost of Britain. Rockall is about 240 miles west of Harris, Outer Hebrides.

He managed to scramble on to the barren rock which rises 186 feet from the sea at 8pm on Saturday at his third attempt. His wife, Jill, said yesterday that her husband had gone there for the challenge and the adventure and to raise money for a body scanner appeal.

He originally planned to spend two months on the rock but because of recent bad weather this was reduced to one month.

He was probably unaware, she said, that some members of the Dublin parliament apparently suspected political motives for the visit to Rockall. "There is certainly nothing political behind all this, although he is very British and proud of Britain," Mrs McClean said.

Sprinkler check

Sprinkler patrols are to make spot checks on homes in the eastern counties this summer in an effort to catch people watering their gardens without an £18 annual licence.

Anglian Water, which has 1.95 million customers between the Humber and the Thames, estimates that it has been losing £2 million a year because of licence dodgers.

Robin Day back

Sir Robin Day, aged 61, will return to television screens on June 6 for the first time since undergoing heart surgery three months ago, when he chairs *Question Time* on BBC 1.

Cash flow threat to Sinclair managers

By Jeremy Warner

Sir Clive Sinclair is expected to come under renewed pressure from the City to strengthen Sinclair Research by making changes in top management after the disclosure at the weekend that the microcomputer company has run into cash flow difficulties.

As reported in *The Times* on Saturday, Thorn-EMI, which manufactures Sinclair computers under contract, has given the company a two-month extension of its credit lines to help to tide it over the cash crisis.

Timex, Sinclair's other main supplier, has also agreed to extend credit worth several million pounds for a further two months.

Sir Clive has been criticized for lack of management expertise in spite of his acknowledged talents as an inventor and entrepreneur, and it is expected that he will be forced to listen to the pleas for new management blood of city institutions investors who paid £3.6 million for a 10 per cent stake in Sinclair Research two years ago.

Sources close to the company said there could be an announcement within a month.

There were persistent suggestions in the stock market last week that Thorn-EMI would launch a takeover for Sinclair Research, and although this has not yet been ruled out it seems unlikely unless the company's difficulties persist.

Clue to coastal erosion

By John Young

A Lancaster University lecturer claims to have identified the cause of the severe erosion along the Humberside coast.

Dr Aden Pringle, senior lecturer in geography, attributes the damage, which over the centuries has led to the disappearance of whole villages and much top quality farm land, to something known in local

dialect as an ord. An ord is a hollow carved out of the beach by the action of the waves and tides which moves southward along the base of the cliffs at the rate of about 550 yards a year. At any one time, according to Dr Pringle, there are as many as 10 ords burrowing along the coast from the southern end of Bridlington Bay to Spurn Head.

Some Co-op shops 'a disgrace'

From Derek Harris, Commercial Editor, Bournemouth

Some retail Co-operative Societies have shops and services which are a "literal disgrace" smearing the rest of the Co-operative movement, Mr George Bromley said in a presidential speech at the opening in Bournemouth yesterday of the Co-operative Congress, the annual parliament of the movement.

Mr Bromley, a retired Trade Union official who is president of Leicestershire Co-operative Society one of the most successful of the top 10 retail Co-operatives, also called for a new national strategy to revive the fortunes of the Co-op.

In some Societies assets built over generations were being sold off to prop up disastrous trading results, he said, and called on the movement to consider making managers of Societies more accountable.

Director decision-making in building Societies was being looked at closely, he said, and added: "If we refuse to stop the ever-increasing losses of our

assets then it may not be too far in the future when we may be forced to do so by outside bodies."

Activists willing to work and campaign could get themselves elected to retail Societies no matter that they had weird and wonderful ideas on how to run a society, he said.

He added: "Are we not seeing today the great tragedy of our democratic organization, built on high ideals for the good of all, being taken over for the good of the few?"

"The takeovers by the tunnel-vision minority pressure groups who abuse all the basic truths of democracy: their contemptuous ignoring of the views of the non-financial majority and inflicting, by force if necessary, their narrow selfish, elitist half-baked ideas on the organization."

Mr Bromley said: "We are not as efficient as our capitalist competitors, the Sainsburys, the Asdas and the Tescos."

"We have a better system, we have a fairer and more just system. We have the resources, we have the capital, we have the

assets. We have yet to match the efficiency of these competitors."

The Co-op's trouble was that it did not have the will to change, Mr Bromley said, and added: "But change we must."

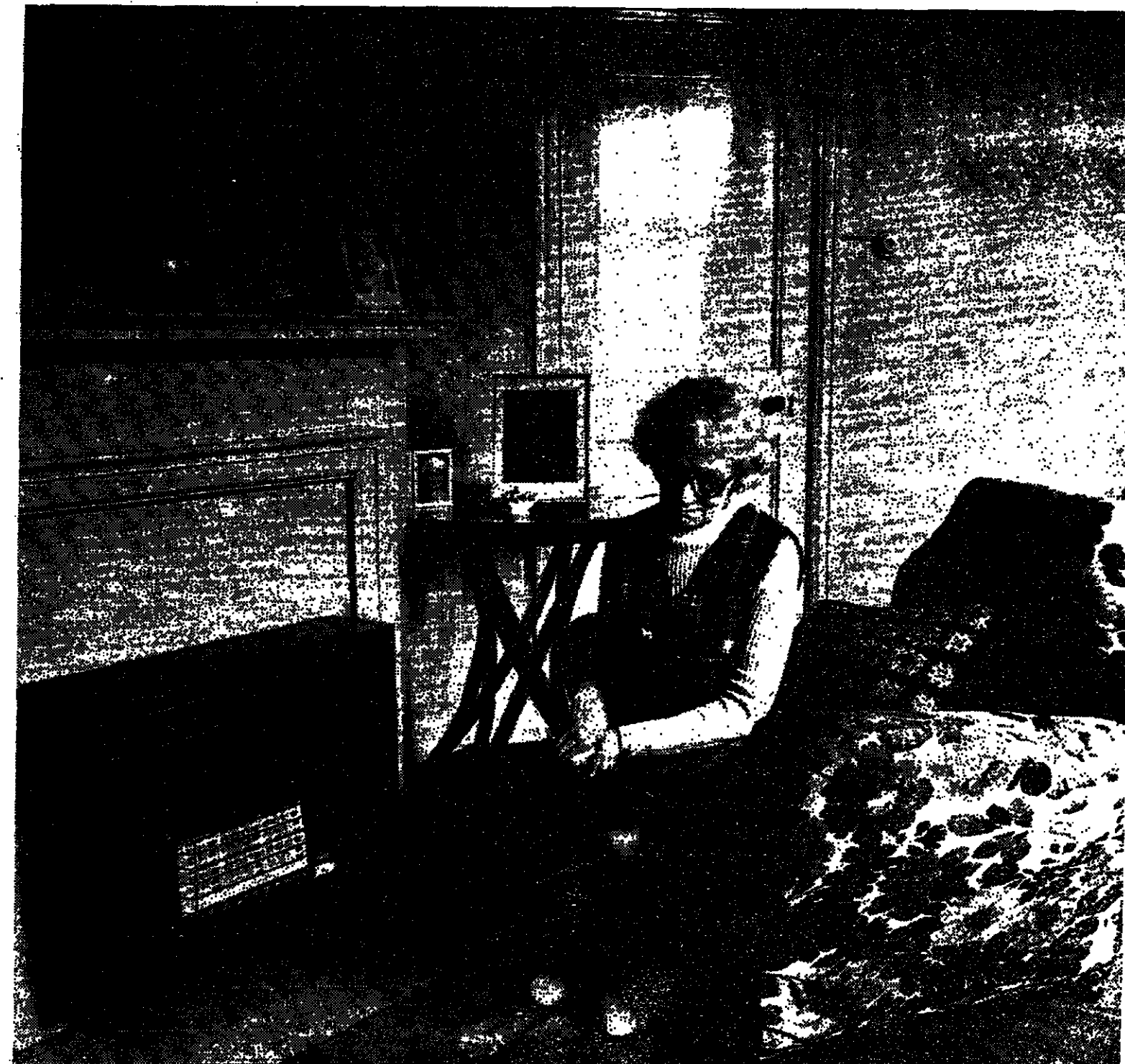
It should be possible for the Co-op to think and act nationally, he said.

That touched on one of the Co-op's biggest difficulties: the number of retail Societies has dropped sharply, but there are still 100 of them in spite of a policy for a reduction to 25 big regional Societies.

Mr Bromley went on: "Given a real look at national strategy - new ideas, new methods of using the assets, the buildings we already have - why should not new trading systems be pioneered? It may not be another national chain but our competitors are not standing still, so neither should we."

Once there were basic strategies for large-scale trading as the norm the Co-op might, if it was not already too late, develop a rational plan for the acquisition and development of superstore sites, he said.

She's spent a lifetime supporting her family. Don't let her become a poor relation.



Miss Ferguson had a well-established career as a private secretary which, unfortunately, she had to give up to care for her elderly and infirm mother.

As it happened, Mrs Ferguson lived on until the grand old age of 102. By then her daughter was 70, with no family of her own and little means of support.

It seemed as though she would have to move out of the home she'd lived in all her life.

Only an annuity from the Royal United Kingdom Beneficent Association (or RUKBA for short) prevented this from happening.

RUKBA was founded in 1863. Today its work is needed more than ever, helping many from a professional or similar background. This includes retired nurses, teachers and those who

have served their country (especially during the two world wars).

We also help those, like Miss Ferguson, who have shown unstinting devotion to their family.

Most often our aim is to enable them to stay in their own homes. Accordingly we provide regular charitable payments that are guaranteed for life (unless their circumstances dramatically change for the better). However, should it become necessary, we can offer a place in one of our residential homes or sheltered flats.

Still, whatever form our help takes, its objective remains the same. To ensure the independence in old age of as many deserving men and women as possible.

Last year alone we spent over £14m assisting nearly 4,800 needy people. This year we'd like to help even more, but, as is to be expected, our costs are increasing daily.

That's why we have to ask you to send a donation to the address below, or to remember RUKBA in your will.

And please, don't forget that people such as Miss Ferguson have given up a lifetime to help others. While all we need you to give up is a little money to help the likes of her.

The Royal United Kingdom Beneficent Association, 6 Avonmore Road, London W14 8RL. Tel: 01-602 6274.

RUKBA

Helping disabled people: 1 More successes than failures for handicapped

In the first of three articles marking the fifteenth anniversary of the passing of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act, RICHARD DOWDEN examines the Act's achievements.

Fifteen years ago this week disabled people were given a statutory right to be provided with whatever they needed to cope with their disability.

The Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act was proclaimed a charter for the disabled. Within five years of the Act's enactment the number of people registered as disabled by local authorities doubled and they were provided with assistance ranging from hearing aids to home helps and holidays.

The Act got into orbit almost miraculously after Mr Alfred Morris, Labour MP for Wythenshawe, won the ballot for private members' Bills. As he was putting the details together a general election was called, shortening the already meagre time he had for drafting. The Conservatives, who won the 1970 election, let it be known that they would support the Bill, and it was the last piece of legislation passed by that parliament.

Its scope affected 12 government departments, something no government-sponsored Bill would have dared to attempt. With the help of the Ombudsman's ruling, it survived a Department of Health and Social Security circular which tried to bring it to earth, but without full government support its implementation was sometimes half-hearted. The main provisions are that:

- Local authorities must find out the disabled in their area, assess their needs and provide them.
- The authorities should provide house adaptations, telephones, meals, holidays, travel and home helps for disabled people and any other aids to assist them.
- There should be more special

housing for disabled people and access to public buildings for them, helped by appropriate facilities and notices.

Disabled people should serve on local and national advisory committees dealing with disability.

Young disabled and sick people should be accommodated separately from elderly disabled in hospitals.

Vehicles for disabled people should be allowed on footpaths and they should have badges exempting from parking restrictions.

An institute for hearing research should be established and special education provided for deaf, blind and autistic children.

Most local authorities carried out some form of survey and the register, which stood at fewer than 300,000 in 1970 grew to 1.25 million in 1982.

Mr Peter Mitchell of the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation, says that the number of services rocketed in the first few years until inflation and then cuts began to bite. He points to the success of the orange badge scheme for disabled drivers, the appointment of handicapped people to the disability committees and the hearing institute as some of the Act's other main successes.

But perhaps the Act's greatest success was greater than the sum of the services provided. It was the creation of a new climate in which government, local and national, had to put disability higher up the agenda. Mr Morris's own appointment as the first minister for the disabled in 1974 was perhaps the greatest example of this. Tomorrow: The failure to implement the Act.

RSPB calls for action on wetlands

By A Staff Reporter

The Government has been criticised for its "grudging and minimalist" approach to an important international conservation treaty to which Britain was one of the first signatories.

In its *Birds* magazine, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds notes that of 129 potential wetland sites suitable for protection under the 1971 Ramsar Convention on wetlands of international importance, especially as waterfowl habitat, only 19 have been listed in spite of a promise by the UK delegate, at a meeting of signatories last year, to bring most of the outstanding sites under the protective net by 1986.

Of the 19 listed sites, only eight are of importance to waterfowl, and "key sites such as The Wash, Morecambe Bay and the Swale remain unlisted". Britain has also been dilatory in its observance of the European Community's Birds Directive, which requires notification of Special Protection Areas, the RSPB says. About 151 potential SPA sites have been identified, but only seven notified.

New way to help pandas breed

By Tony Samstag

A new technique for inseminating giant pandas artificially could revolutionize attempts to breed the notoriously unpropitious species in captivity. Mr John Knight, London zoo's veterinary officer, has said.

The new method, developed by Mr Knight in collaboration with Chinese scientists in Szechuan province, involves using an operating telescope, originally designed for the human kidney, to implant sperm directly into the uterus without the need for surgery.

So tortuous is the reproductive system of the giant panda, that surgery has been the only previous means of artificial insemination, and success rates have been so low that even the one live birth in 10 expected by Mr Knight with the use of the telescope would be "quite acceptable".

On Saturday Mr Knight was due to fly to Qatar in the Gulf, where he is on a year's secondment to manage the futuristic Doha zoo, in the development of which the Zoological Society of London has been closely involved.

The Sun criticized for 'Little Hitler' headline

The *Sun* is criticized by the Press Council today for describing a former traffic warden as a "Little Hitler".

Mr John Hancock, of Selwyn Close, Old Basford, Nottingham, had complained that it was improper of the *Sun* to use the "Little Hitler" headline to an unbalanced report about his domestic affairs.

The newspaper ran a story headlined "Little Hitler John is sacked as a grandad" with the subsidiary headline "Meanie ignored toddlers". It reported that a "Little Hitler" traffic warden, who had been dismissed for booking too many motorists, was rejected again... as a grandfather.

His son, Arthur, had advertised for new grandparents for his children. It reported that the son said his father showed no interest in his two grandchildren.

The report said that Mr Hancock had booked 17,000 motorists in 15 years before being dismissed a year earlier.

Loneliness is just one problem

And it is a fairly common problem for seafarers away from home for months at a time. But it is only one of the troubles that people bring to us. As a Christian society working among seafarers we are asked for all kinds of help - spiritual, emotional, social and practical. And we are there, ready to give all the help we can, in all parts of the world.

To give this help we depend entirely upon voluntary contributions. Please help us to continue the Anglican Church's ministry to seafarers by a legacy, or please send whatever you can to The Missions to Seamen, Freepost, London, EC4A 4EP.

The Missions to Seamen
St Michael Paternoster Royal, College Hill,
London EC4A 2RL

Iraqi jets shatter six-week lull

Bahrain (Reuters) - Iran said its warplanes yesterday attacked the Iraqi town of al-Amarah in retaliation for a series of air raids and missile attacks on Iranian cities.

The national news agency Irna said the Iranian planes all returned after raiding the town, which lies on the main highway from Baghdad to southern Iraq.

Earlier, Iraq had launched major attacks on Iranian cities, breaking a six-week lull in the 36-month-old Gulf war after the assassination attempt on the Amir of Kuwait.

After a pre-dawn air raid on Tehran, which Iran said killed at least six people, and a later raid on "The Dens of the Misguided Ones" in the western city of Ilam, the Iraqis sent waves of fighter-bombers against six Iranian towns, according to an Iraqi communiqué.

They then fired long-range missiles into the western Iranian towns of Bakhtaran (formerly Kermanshah) and Islamabad-e-Gharb, destroying "selected targets", the communiqué said.

Iran confirmed most of the attacks but said they were against residential areas. It said at least six, and possibly up to 10 people died in Tehran, and 15 in the west, but that it was too early to know the toll from the missile attacks.

Iraq said waves of between four and 10 fighter-bombers hit the Iranian towns of Sar-e-Pol-e-Zahab, Gilan-e-Gharb and Dehloran as well as military bases in Baneh, Khaman and Marivan. It did not specify what "selected targets" were chosen.

The tents and trailers at the foot of the wall were crushed under blocks of stone that weighed several tons. Most of the other 300 people in the camp helped to remove the victims from the debris, using cars to pull away the rocks.

The ground began to tremble, said M. Ludovic Salon, a Parisian, who had decided not to pitch his tent near the wall because of mud in the area.

"I ran out of my tent and it was like a nightmare. Trailers and tents were completely covered with rocks and gravel in a horrendous roar. I had the feeling that the whole hill was going to crumble."

The privately owned camp site, which has room for 2,000 people, is built on two levels. It was to prevent the stairways and dirt terraces that lead to

the upper portion from crumbling, that the wall was built last winter.

The Var region, where the camp site is, has been hard hit by rain in recent days, and it was apparently a combination of water and erosion that shifted the wall and weakened it.

Families of the victims accused the wall's builder of shoddy work and some said they had noticed cracks in the cement when they arrived at the campsite.

A police officer from Toulon, which, with Marseille and Bagnols, sent firemen and other emergency workers to the disaster scene, said he could not confirm that the wall had been cracked.

"Volunteers cried: About 175 firemen, gendarmes and civil defence workers went to the scene."

The scene at the wall looked much like the aftermath of an earthquake. Large chunks of masonry and metal buried several people and pinned others to the ground. Family members and volunteers shouted and cried as they frantically worked to dig out the victims.

"This wall was built last winter to avoid just such an accident because children had a tendency to play on the sandy hillside and risked falling", said Aime Joly.

Nairobi (AFP) - As many as 30 children are believed to have died when a vehicle carrying them home from a music and drama festival crashed into a heavy goods lorry in the Kericho district of Kenya's Rift Valley province. One hospital was reported to have admitted 30 other pupils in critical condition.

Killer mine
Manila (AFP) - Twelve gold prospectors were feared dead and 47 trapped after a series of makeshift mining tunnels collapsed in the southern island of Mindanao, the Philippine News Agency reported.

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Sudan rebel leader rejects deal with junta
Nairobi (AFP) - Colonel John Garang, leader of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, rejected any agreement with the new military-led regime in Khartoum and called on Sudanese to continue to struggle for "complete victory".

In an address over the southern movement's radio, he said that the junta which ousted President Nimeiry had no intention of handing over power or holding elections. He called on all sectors of Sudanese society to join a national struggle led by his army and the organization's political wing, the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement, for a democratic society.

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Wall of death: Campers and rescuers stand around all that remains of a caravan after the disaster.

Collapsing wall kills 11 campers

From Our Correspondent

Paris

At least 11 people were killed and six injured when a wall, apparently damaged by heavy rain, collapsed on trailers and tents at a camp site in the south of France yesterday. Five children were among the dead.

The wall, about 15ft high and 90ft long, gave way at about 8am, as the campers slept. All the victims belonged to a group of about 30 who had come to the camp site in St Cyr, near Toulon to spend the Pentecost long weekend scuba diving.

The tents and trailers at the foot of the wall were crushed under blocks of stone that weighed several tons. Most of the other 300 people in the camp helped to remove the victims from the debris, using cars to pull away the rocks.

The ground began to tremble, said M. Ludovic Salon, a Parisian, who had decided not to pitch his tent near the wall because of mud in the area.

"I ran out of my tent and it was like a nightmare. Trailers and tents were completely covered with rocks and gravel in a horrendous roar. I had the feeling that the whole hill was going to crumble."

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the upper portion from crumbling, that the wall was built last winter.

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A police officer from Toulon, which, with Marseille and Bagnols, sent firemen and other emergency workers to the disaster scene, said he could not confirm that the wall had been cracked.

"Volunteers cried: About 175 firemen, gendarmes and civil defence workers went to the scene."

The scene at the wall looked much like the aftermath of an earthquake. Large chunks of masonry and metal buried several people and pinned others to the ground. Family members and volunteers shouted and cried as they frantically worked to dig out the victims.

"This wall was built last winter to avoid just such an accident because children had a tendency to play on the sandy hillside and risked falling", said Aime Joly.

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Kissinger presses Star Wars case

From Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent
The Hague

Dr Henry Kissinger expressed strong support of President Reagan's strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) or Star Wars, at a weekend conference here, saying that to reject it would do "irreparable damage" to the Western Alliance.

But the former US Secretary of State also called for a new kind of political dialogue between the superpowers which would not be confined to arms control. They should decide where they wanted to be in 10 years, he said, then work back from there, drawing up a code of conduct to guide East-West relations.

Dr Kissinger made it clear that he was not trying to invent a new job for himself. Such a dialogue would have to be firmly under the control of the present Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz.

Dr Kissinger was addressing a round-table conference organized by the Dutch Atlantic Commission, whose other guests included Lord Carrington, Nato Secretary General, Mr Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's national security ad-

viser, and Mr H. van den Broek, Foreign Minister of the Netherlands.

Warning the West that in the next decade they could find themselves reflecting on the 1980s as a period of lost opportunity, he said there had been three chances since the Second World War to change fundamentally the West's approach to international affairs. The first after the death of Stalin in the 1950s. The second following the US rapprochement with China in the early 1970s. The third was now, with a new leader in Moscow and fresh faces in the Politburo.

On Star Wars Dr Kissinger said he was convinced that some form of strategic defence was essential for the future of both arms control and security, and he urged the US to start immediate discussions about the future of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, which he helped to bring into being 13 years ago.

His only serious criticism was of the pretence that the US was committed only to the research phase of the programme.

India's new High Commissioner in Sri Lanka, Mr J. N. Dixit, who arrived in Colombo yesterday, is said to be carrying a personal letter from Mr Rajin Ganesa, the Indian Prime Minister, to give to President Jayawardene when he presents his credentials today.

There is speculation in Colombo that the letter carries a formal invitation to President Jayawardene to visit Delhi and that the visit may take place before Mr Gandhi leaves for a US visit June 6.

The call by prominent Buddhist monks to talk to the Indian Government, and if necessary even the Sri Lankan

Tamil militants in Tamil Nadu, has strengthened President Jayawardene's hand. Earlier it was felt that any attempt to set up a meeting between the two leaders would be viewed with suspicion by hardliners among the Sinhalese, especially the Buddhist priests.

The letter is also thought to spell out guidelines for the summit.

Meanwhile, the Government is investigating the reported killing of 13 Tamil civilians, allegedly by security forces in the north-east. Eight civilians, are alleged to have been killed at Fankulam, near the coastal town of Trincomalee.

Whatever attacks we face from terrorists it is also our paramount duty to keep economic development going at all costs... If economic development stops, the chaos that will ensue all over Sri Lanka is something too terrible to contemplate.

President Jayawardene made it clear the day after Mr De Mel's speech was published that the Government intends to spend as much as the armed forces need to carry on the fight against the separatists.

Observers feel that there is likely to be a balance-of-payments problem as well as a budget deficit problem before too long. However, the Sri Lankan economy, thanks to several good growing seasons after a series of bad ones, and thanks to some skilled management of the economy, has kept the inflation rate down to zero. Though it is likely to rise soon as a result of the crisis, the Government is confident it will keep it within single figures.

Fighting a rearguard action to protect expenditure on development from the needs of the armed forces for new and ever more sophisticated weapons, Mr De Mel said:

Textiles are beginning to suffer - just as they were right for quality and right for price, after some struggle - because overseas importers are unwilling to enter into contracts which they feel their Sri Lankan suppliers may not be able to fulfil because of the troubles.

The Sri Lankan Finance Minister, Mr Ronnie De Mel, has drawn attention to the fall in the tax take saying: "Our loss of revenue on tea alone will be nearly 2,000 million rupees (£60 million)." He added: "Our budgeted expenditure on defence will be exceeded by another 2,000 million." And he concluded: "Due to all these factors we will face severe economic strains in the future, even though the present looks bright."

Coalition to oust Tories in Ontario

From John Best
Ottawa

The Progressive Conservative Government of Ontario, which has run Canada's most populous province for 42 years, faces imminent removal from power.

The Liberals and the New Democratic Party, which together won more seats than the Tories in the May 2 provincial general election, have agreed to combine forces and bring down the Government after the legislature assembles in Toronto on June 4.

This probably will mean a return to Liberal rule for the first time since 1943. The Liberals won 48 seats in the election, four fewer than the Conservatives, while the left-wing New Democrats won 25 to hold the balance of power.

The new Democrat leader, Mr Bob Rae, is believed to have won from the Liberal leader and probable future premier, Mr David Peterson, a pledge that the Liberals will allow the provincial legislature to live for up to two years before calling an election.

But at this stage of dwindling support for defence budgets, the admiral is privately very worried that the money to do his job is being diverted more and more into the air, into space and on to the land. The internal battle in Nato on priorities is hotting up.

This will come more and more into the open after last week's approval by the Nato defence ministers of a blueprint for developing conventional forces.

The admiral is a very conventional navy man who loves aircraft carriers and who has nightmares about bringing supplies across a submarine-infested North Atlantic with too few escort ships.

As he sees it, the big aircraft carrier is the best ultimate weapon. Had Britain had one off the Falklands, the chances of Super-Exocets getting through with Exocets missiles would have been slim. From the air, he believes, the Navy rules OK.

Like all Nato commanders these days, the admiral is an excellent and deliberate scaremonger. The Soviet threat, he produces the figures to show, is growing all the time. Russia's Navy is developing its new technology to match the West's. It has grown up in a decade from a coastal defence force to a worldwide navy capable of operating.

He is sure the best way of countering the threat is by building aircraft carriers and attack submarines.

And he seems to know he cannot win the argument because the capital cost of the sort of ships he wants will terrify the finance ministers and parliaments of most Alliance countries.

He bemoans the fact that his Soviet counterpart, after 28 years in the same job, has obviously got much less difficulty in persuading the Kremlin to provide the money he needs.

The paradox is that Nato commanders believe they fail in their job if they make the people feel peaceful and free. They only get the kind of finances they want by scaring the taxpayers into paying up protection money.

Seoul students win moral victory as sit-in ends peacefully at US office

From David Watts, Seoul

South Korean students, tied together in pairs and denouncing the "military dictatorship", gave up their occupation of the US Information Service offices in Seoul yesterday with hardly a concession from three days of negotiations with US Embassy officials but with an undoubted moral and propaganda victory.

The 73 students, who looked scarcely more than children, were immediately forced on to buses by security men and taken away.

The peaceful resolution of the occupation was tribute to skilled American diplomacy and public restraint by the South Korean Government.

The US Ambassador, Mr Richard Walker, deplored the occupation at a press conference later but said he was gratified that the siege, fraught with tension, had ended with dialogue and conciliation rather than violence.

In a none-too-subtle hint to the Government of President Chun Doo Hwan, which the US is pressing to become more liberal, he said: "The settlement of this incident through quiet negotiation and reason can serve as an example for all concerned. It should be noted that throughout the period the Government of the Republic of Korea kept in close contact with the American Embassy and displayed quiet restraint."

Transcripts of Radio Pyongyang commentaries of the occupation were shown to them in an attempt to convince them of their value to the communist north. A North Korean delegation arrives in Seoul today to reopen talks on divided families.

The occupation will focus further attention on Kwangju and the President's role in the brutal suppression of protest against his seizure of power in 1980.

The media were banned from referring to Kwangju until the general election last February.

The US negotiators, who conceded the "extreme brutality" with which the Kwangju uprising was quelled, denied that America had had any influence on the deployment of Korean forces at the time, except for the release from the joint command of the 20th infantry division because of its experience in crowd control. The Americans claim that the unit played a role in lessening the violence in Kwangju.

Mr Walker said that after reviewing documents on Kwangju before taking up his post "I am quite satisfied in my own mind that the US does not bear responsibility or culpability, and in my view the sooner we get that behind us and look to the future the better for us and for all Koreans."



Defiant surrender: Chanting students being pushed on to a bus by security officers in Seoul as the siege ended.

MPs force inquiry into Zia's martial law

From Hasan Akhtar Islamabad

Mr Fakhr Imam, Speaker of the Pakistan National Assembly, yesterday overruled the technical objections of Mr Iqbal Ahmad Khan, the Law Minister, on the opening day of the budget discussion and admitted three privilege motions which in essence seek the immediate repeal of martial law after eight years.

Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, the Prime Minister who said two months ago when sworn in that martial law and democratic government could not co-exist, remained seated and silent as the Law Minister vainly opposed the motions while maintaining that the Government was not opposed to lifting martial law.

The Speaker asked the Leader of the House, an office Mr Junejo holds, to set up a committee to consider the motions and report.

An Islamabad English language daily yesterday claimed that 225 of the 237 assembly members "unanimously" urged Mr Junejo to ask General Zia Haq to lift martial law immediately.

Newspapers meanwhile have reported three days of disturbances in Karachi which led to five deaths and brought in army patrols to help police maintain order in parts of the Sind capital.

Court quashes sentence

Top dissident wins Polish jail appeal

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Mr Jacek Kuron, one of Poland's leading dissidents, has been celebrating an unexpected victory: Against the odds, a Warsaw court quashed his three-month jail sentence for taking part in Solidarity demonstrations.

Some 50 friends and Solidarity supporters yelled their approval and ran forward to congratulate him when the Warsaw Appeal Court announced its verdict on Saturday.

The police case, drawn up by the prosecutor, and leaning heavily on the evidence of the major who arrested Mr Kuron on May Day, argued that he had refused to obey orders to disperse. Mr Kuron, in his rasping voice, told the court he was merely trying to negotiate a peaceful end to the demonstration and had not heard the command to disperse.

The judge, Mrs Julia Zdunczyk, believed Mr Kuron. "There is no doubt that he took part in the demonstration, but it has not been proved that he disobeyed the police orders."

Although the verdict may give the authorities some problems for a while - another Solidarity leader, Mr Henryk Wujec, is also appealing against his jail term using arguments similar to Mr Kuron's.

Government officials expressed some astonishment at Saturday's verdict, but it serves their propaganda purposes quite well. It will allow the authorities

to present the Polish judiciary as genuinely independent and thus pre-empt some of the international criticism of the far more serious trial of three prominent Solidarity activists, Mr Adam Michnik, Mr Wladyslaw Frasyniuk and Mr Bogdan Lis.

Meanwhile, it is understood there have been discreet contacts between the French and Polish authorities over allowing Mr Lech Walesa, the chairman of Solidarity, to visit Paris.

The French Prime Minister, M Laurent Fabius, has publicly urged the Polish authorities to permit Mr Walesa to make the trip. The Solidarity leader, however, wants guarantees that he will be allowed to return to Poland, and not suddenly be stripped of his citizenship. Also he wants to be accompanied by a prominent Solidarity adviser, Professor Bronislaw Geremek.

● COPENHAGEN: Mr Jozef Zimnicki, a former leading member of the Central Committee of the Polish Communist Party, who has been granted political asylum by Denmark with members of his family, is being given board and lodging by the Danish Refugee Aid Organization at the expense of the Danish state (Christopher Follett writes).

Danish intelligence sources disclosed at the weekend that Mr Zimnicki had arrived in Copenhagen in February with his wife, daughter and son-in-law.

Poll debate divides Italian Communists

From John Earle, Rome

The Italian Communist Party has decided that the special three-day Central Committee meeting which ended here on Saturday was not sufficient to map future strategy in the light of the recent local election setbacks. A further session is to be called to examine the debate now set in motion within the party.

The meeting is expected to take place in mid-June, after the results of a Communist-sponsored referendum set for June 9 - assuming it takes place - on restoring Government cuts in cost of living allowances imposed last year on wage and salary earners.

The Government is discussing with employers and union representatives ways to restructure wage and cost of living allowance scales so as to make the referendum superfluous.

At the weekend Central Committee meeting, 68 speakers aired their views on why the Communist vote dropped from an average 35 to 30 per cent, behind the Christian Democrats, and what tactics should be used against the Christian Democrats, Socialists and other parties, to regain ground. Another 70 withdrew requests to speak because of lack of time. The party secretary Signor

Alessandro Natta, whose report was approved unanimously, admitted that the Communist claim to offer "a democratic alternative" form a government was not now realistic. He recognized that "diverse and even discordant positions" had emerged in the debate, and said they reflected the richness of ideas within the party.

He favoured fully the free formation of majority and minority groups in debate on specific problems whenever necessary, but opposed their crystallization into organized factions as other Italian parties.



Signor Natta: Seeking to prevent growth of factions.

Frontiers not settled says Bonn Minister

Düsseldorf (Reuters) - The West German Interior Minister, Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, yesterday said that treaties signed with East European countries in the 1970s did not mean that Bonn recognized their post-war boundaries.

Ratification of the frontiers, he said, would have to await the signing of a peace treaty between the four former occupying powers - the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain and France - and a reunited Germany.

Addressing a rally here of former inhabitants of East Prussia, ceded to the Soviet Union after the war, Herr Zimmermann emphasized that West Germany wished to maintain good relations with Eastern Europe, and in particular respected the wish of the Polish people to live within secure boundaries.

Ancient Mass marks Toledo's 1085 conquest

From Richard Wigg Madrid

Spain yesterday celebrated the 900th anniversary of the reconquest of Toledo from the Moors when Queen Sofia attended a special service in the city's cathedral using the Mozarabic Mass, the rite preserved by Christians during centuries of occupation.

The service used the original text, established after four years of expert study, to mark the culmination of a week-long gathering in Toledo of more than 100 medieval historians from Britain, Europe and the United States.

The theme of the week, highlighted frequently by the historians as Spain prepares to join the Common Market, was Spain's European roots.

Under King Alfonso VI, Toledo blossomed into one of the principal capitals of Europe.

Transfer of Hong Kong to be ratified today

From David Bonavia, Hong Kong

Historic events for both Hong Kong and Macao take place today as the colonies move closer to reunification with the People's Republic of China.

In Peking, British and Chinese officials will exchange instruments of ratification of last year's agreement on the incorporation of Hong Kong into China as a "special administrative region" in 1997.

Meanwhile, Portugal's President Eanes will arrive in Macao and is expected to brief the administration there on his talks in Peking with Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese elder statesman, and other leaders. It is believed that China intends to accept the reversion of Macao to Chinese sovereignty as another "special administrative region" near to, or on, the same date as Hong Kong.

Peking has promised that Hong Kong will enjoy 50 years of capitalism and British-style laws after 1997, and a similar arrangement is expected for

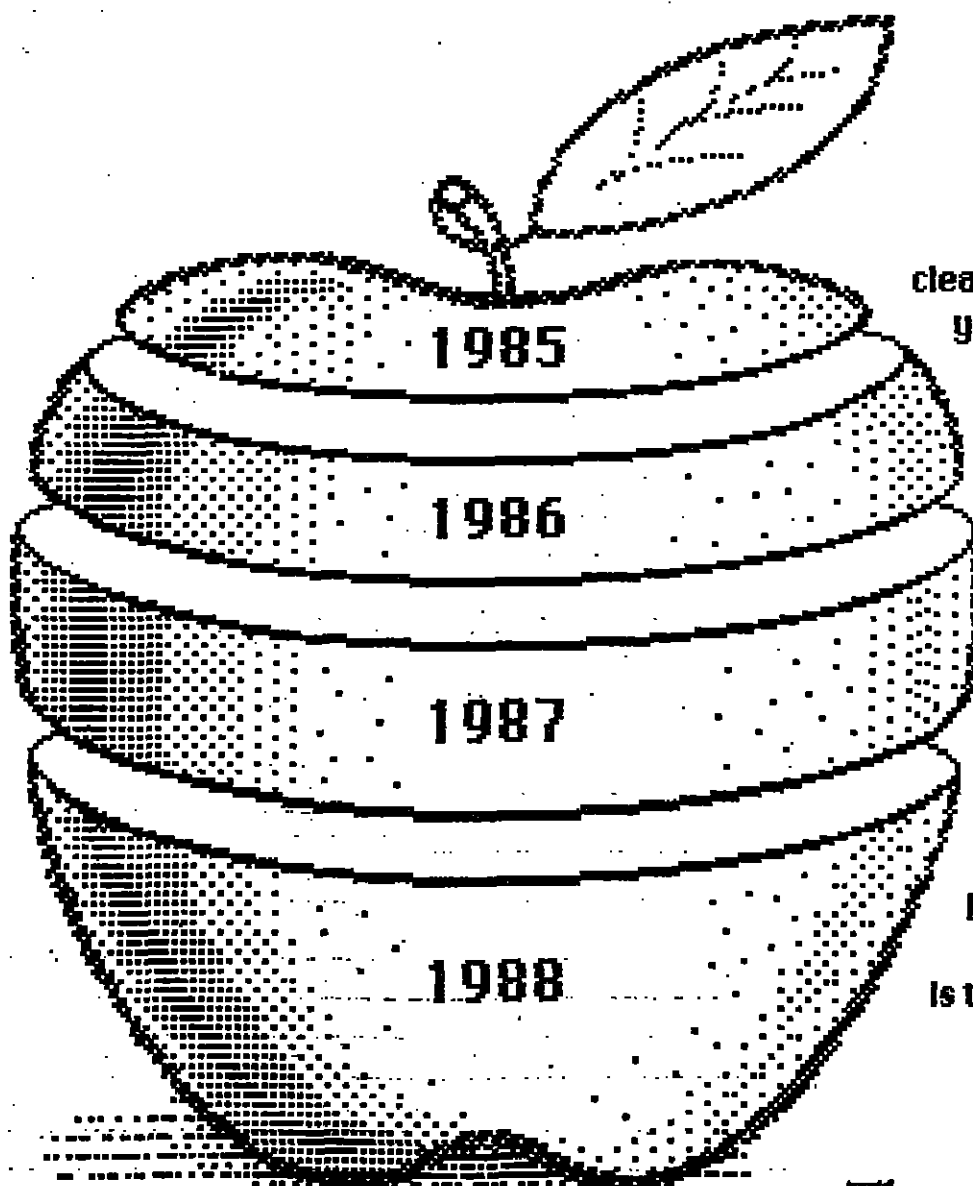
Macao. It is unclear, however, whether the tiny Portuguese enclave will be permitted to continue its most productive industry - casino gambling.

In Hong Kong the ratification is being accepted calmly.

The setting up of Anglo-Chinese consultative groups to monitor Hong Kong's progress towards internal autonomy under Chinese sovereignty has been marred by the farcical business of converting a Hong Kong citizen's British dependent territory passport to a United Kingdom passport to enable him to sit on the main joint liaison group.

Peking insists that only Britain and China are involved in the process of restoration of sovereignty, on the ground that the people of Hong Kong are mainly Chinese and Peking therefore represents their interests. Mr Eric Ho, the appointee, could not be accepted on the committee until his passport was changed.

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Pretoria to allow mixed-race political parties

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South Africa is to repeal the law banning racially mixed political parties, probably before this session of Parliament ends in a month's time.

It will be the second important piece of apartheid legislation to be repealed from the statute book. Last month the Government announced that the laws prohibiting sex and marriage across the colour line were to be abolished.

The decision to repeal the Prohibition of Political Interference Act, as the law banning multiracial parties is curiously titled, was announced on Saturday night in Pretoria by Mr Chris Heunis, the Minister of Constitutional Planning and Development.

It showed, he said, that the Government was committed "to abolish unnecessary measures and to carry through the reform process aimed at the establishment of a society in which all groups have effective participation in all decision-making processes".

In another move towards reform at the weekend, the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs, Mr Danie Steyn, announced the Government's intention to repeal the last piece of legislation reserving certain categories of jobs for whites. This is the clause in the Mines and Works Act which bars blacks solely on grounds of colour from qualifying as "scheduled persons" - that is, those with certificates showing their competency to handle dynamite.

The effect of the restriction is that the 450,000 blacks who

work in South Africa's goldmines, for example, can never become fully-fledged miners.

Mr Steyn said the Government intended to amend the legislation next year, even if in the interim it failed to get the agreement of white miners and their leader, Mr Arrie Paulus, who has hitherto been the main stumbling block to change.

There are about 30,000 whites in Mr Paulus's union, of whom some 11,000 work in the goldmines. One of their fears, if job reservation goes, is that they could be replaced by cheaper black labour.

The abolition of the Prohibition of Political Interference Act, Mr Heunis made clear, will not change the racially segregated structure of Parliament, which has three separate chambers for whites, Indians and mixed-blood Coloureds.

It does mean, however, that whites, coloured, Indians and blacks (Africans), the latter account for more than 70 per cent of the population but not represented in Parliament at all, would be able to join the same political party.

Such a party could then be represented in all three chambers of Parliament.

It is important for the Government to maintain the segregated structure of Parliament for the time being as this gives the white house, where it has a huge majority, an effective veto over all legislation.

Without this protection, the Government could be outvoted by a cross-racial alliance of political forces.

Moscow leaves Gandhi glowing

From Our Own Correspondent, Delhi

The Indian Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, returned from the Soviet Union yesterday, justifiably pleased with himself and the way his visit went.

Glowing slightly in the Delhi heat, to which he had perhaps grown unused, and for which he was unsuitably dressed in a dark "Nehru" jacket with high-buttoned collar, he said the visit had been very successful, adding that he had had very good talks with the Soviet leadership, and in particular Mr Mikhail Gorbachev.

Mr Gandhi seems to have been able to satisfy most of the friends of the Soviet Union in India that Indo-Russian relations remain the principal plank of his foreign and trade policies, while at the same time making it clear that he was not buying everything Mr Gorbachev had to sell.

Most commentators have welcomed the signing of two economic co-operation agreements, lasting until the year 2000, noting approvingly that Russia is now India's largest trading partner.

But talks about the supply of nuclear-powered electricity generating equipment have not yielded fruit.

On foreign affairs, the two sides had a close identity of views on many topics listed in the joint statement issued at the end of the visit. They agreed on steps towards nuclear disarmament and on stern criticism of Israel, South Africa and the Western base in Diego Garcia.



Homecoming: Mr Gandhi and his wife Sonia arriving in Delhi after their Soviet visit.

But nothing was heard in the final communiqué of Mr Gorbachev's suggestion of an all-Asian collective security pact. The proposal was not as badly received as when President Brezhnev made a similar offer, which involved an element of Soviet supervision, but Mr Gandhi was quick to pass over the idea when it was raised at Delhi's Palam airport yesterday.

He preferred to concentrate, as the joint statement did, on the UN declaration of the Indian Ocean as a peace zone.

On Afghanistan, Mr Gandhi was reported to have restated the Soviet leaders that India disapproved of all forms of external interference in the country's affairs.

Mr Gandhi will set off on his travels again next week, this time to France and the US. It is plain that he will express his opposition to Star Wars and, perhaps of more direct concern, Pakistan's apparent progress towards developing nuclear weapons, with evident American complacency.

● ISLAMABAD: A member of Pakistan's National Assembly called yesterday for the country to make an atomic bomb, saying it would boost the nation's defence and be supported by the people (AP reports).

"The entire nation supports making a bomb. Why should not we do it to make our defence independent of other nations?" Shaikh Rasid Ahmed said.

Agca confessions hold key

Eight go on trial for plot to kill Pope

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The trial opens here today in a heavily protected Rome courtroom, of three Bulgarians and five Turks accused of conspiring to kill the Pope on May 13, 1981, with an attack in St Peter's Square which left him severely wounded.

Immediately after the shooting police arrested Mehmet Ali Agca, a Turkish terrorist who shot the Pope with a 9mm Browning pistol.

He was held for a quick-thinking trial, the most severe penalty under Italian law.

The first year of his sentence was to have been served in conditions of complete isolation, and for some months he remained silent, apparently believing that he would be freed.

Once his hopes proved to be vain Agca began a celebrated series of confessions which implicated not only members of the "Grey Wolves", the Turkish far right terrorist organization to which he belonged, but also two former officials of the Bulgarian embassy in Rome as well as Bulgarian airline executive supposed to have been given the task of driving Agca and another terrorist away after the assassination.

These confessions so far form the only basis for implicating the security services of the eastern bloc, and so indirectly the Soviet Union, in the attempt on the Pope's life.

Of the Bulgarians only Mr Sergei Antonov, the airline official, will be present in court. He was arrested in November 1982.

The others, Mr Jelle Kolev Vassilev and Mr Todor Stojanov Ayzarov, were recalled to Sofia before accusations were made against them. The court is expected at some stage to move to Bulgaria to interrogate them, as well as Mr Bekir Celebi, a Turkish businessman living in Sofia who allegedly

put Agca in touch with the Bulgarian secret service.

In the meantime, one of the principle mysteries remains that of why the Bulgarians left Mr Antonov in Italy while withdrawing the other alleged conspirators, who were covered by diplomatic immunity.

The judges are well aware that very little substantial evidence has been found to support Agca's accusations despite years of investigation.

Agca himself will be among the accused, but the charge against him is relatively minor: he is charged with having brought a weapon into Italy illegally. His role as witness, however, will be crucial: it is his version of the background to the shooting of the Pope that the court must judge.

He maintains that the Bulgarians planned the crime, financing him and his fellow Grey Wolves and supplying logistical support. The alleged motive for the attempted assassination was that the first Slav to be elected Pope had become too dangerous an influence in Eastern Europe.

Agca, however, has been shown to have lied at times, and twice has retracted evidence.

The hearing is expected to last until December.

An unexpected new case was added at the weekend with the revelation that another Turk, Mr Aslan Esamet, aged 25, was arrested on May 14 during the Pope's visit to The Netherlands.

He was carrying a pistol believed to be from the same stock of four as that bought by Agca in Vienna in April 1981. It is the first of the remaining three to have come to light.

● AMSTERDAM: The public prosecutor dealing with the Dutch case, Mr Van der Laan, yesterday said there were serious doubts about the man's identity. (Our Correspondent writes). Though he claims to be Aslan Esamet, his passport thought to be false.



Among the accused: Mehmet Ali Agca (left); the Turkish Mr Musar Sedar Celebi; and Mr Sergei Antonov (right).

28 cardinals created

From John Earle, Rome

The Pope created 28 new cardinals on Saturday at a consistory held for the first time in the open air, in St Peter's Square. The cardinals from 19 countries, swore obedience and received the red biretta, or cardinal's hat, at a ceremony watched by 20,000.

They were extorted by the Pope to have "the prudence of the serpent and the simplicity of the dove". Often they would meet opposition, often persecution and imprisonment, he said. But the word of the Gospel would survive victorious over

today's persecutions, and bring to the generations of the new millennium the promise of pardon and the message of hope.

Of the 28, whose names were announced in April, five are from Italy and two from the US - Archbishop John O'Connor of New York and Bernard Law of Boston. Some come from countries where Church-State relations are tense, such as Cardinal Henryk Gulbinowicz, of Poland, and Cardinal Miguel Obando Bravo of Nicaragua.

Rising Thai alarm over Vietnamese attacks

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Incursions across the Thai border by Vietnamese forces in Cambodia are causing deep concern to Thailand and some Western governments. In the latest incident at the weekend Vietnamese soldiers crossed into Ubon Ratchathani province and clashed with a Thai patrol.

Local Thai officials said the fighting which went on several hours, left five Thai soldiers and one civilian dead. Three men were wounded. Vietnamese casualties are not known.

The fighting forced the evacuation of 600 Thai civilians from border villages. As the Thais brought up reinforcements, the Vietnamese retreated and are believed to have moved back into Cambodia.

The incursion coincided with the delivery of another Thai protest note about more than 10 Vietnamese border infringements since November. It said Vietnamese troops were still entrenched in the south-eastern province of Trat, where 1,200 crossed the border last month.

Thai officers said 1,500 marines were still in positions there, as another Vietnamese attack was likely.

The note said 64 soldiers had been killed and 153 wounded by Vietnamese invaders since November. The Thais denied Vietnam's counter-claim that they had sent troops and aircraft into Cambodia last month.

Commenting on the border situation, the US ambassador in Bangkok, Mr John Gunther Dean, said Washington was trying to be responsive to Thailand's needs. The most important objective of the United States in South-East Asia is the maintenance of Thailand's security.

Forgotten Ethiopians forced to scavenge

By Paul Valley

The small market town of Zui Hamusuit in northern Ethiopia has a population of only 800 in normal times. Today 7,000 people live in its streets, which they comb for grains of wheat that have fallen from merchants' sacks.

The scale of the famine in this remote area, sandwiched between the territories held by the Ethiopian Government and the Tigrayan rebels, is enormous according to a team of German doctors recently returned from the north of Wollo province.

"In the Waga region two thirds of the population have left their homes, many of the villages are totally empty," said Dr Maria Altschul, one of five doctors from the charity German Emergency Doctors.

"In one area we saw 60,000 people who were totally without food. Locals reports suggested that there are as many as 300,000 in the immediate vicinity. She said people were reduced to scavenging.

The doctors are the only foreigners to have worked in the forgotten region, which is controlled by a minor rebel group, the Ethiopian Peoples' Democratic Movement.

The doctors originally intended to setup five clinics and a field hospital to be staffed by locally trained barefoot doctors. But the problems of starvation were so acute that instead they did a survey to see how much surplus food was available in those parts of the region bordering on Gondar, which is less affected by the drought. ● NAIROBI: Two West German military transport aircraft and one from Belgium are to launch an airlift of food, medical supplies and seeds to famine-hit areas of Darfur region in western Sudan this week (Charles Harrison writes).

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THE ARTS

Theatre in New York: Holly Hill reviews Broadway musicals Energetic and becalmed interplay



Daniel H. Jenkins (right) as a rather mature Huckleberry Finn with Ron Richardson's Jim in *Big River*

In this most pathetic season of Broadway musicals, one redeeming grace has finally arrived, and its name is *Big River* (Eugene O'Neill Theatre). An adaptation of Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, the show is not a classic but congenial company and warm family fare.

Des McAnuff's imaginative staging makes the action move in energetic and becalmed interplay, like the flow of the Mississippi River on which Huck and the runaway slave Jim make their bid for freedom. The breadth and precision of vision - from panoramic scenes with actors spilling into boxes and aisles to capture a town's social fabric, to the detail of an echo in Injun Joe's cave - are enthralling. So are Heidi Landesman's sets, with the Mississippi in the background like an iridescent veil of smoke, swirling rafts and interiors suggested by a few formal or rustic touches.

Roger Miller, winner of 11 Grammy awards and six Gold Records for songs like "King of the Road", is a happy addition to Broadway lyric and music writers,

making his debut with the jolliest score since *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. His country and western idiom, with bluegrass, blues and one gospel, embodies Mark Twain's characters and vernacular.

The performances are engaging: Ron Richardson a powerful Jim, John Short an adoptable Tom Sawyer and Bob Gunton and Rene Auberjonois near show-stealers as the con men King and Duke. It is, however, a mortal sin for a musical featuring Mr Gunton (the original Juan Perón in *Evita* here) not to have even one solo for him. At least Patti Cohenour, who outshone Linda Ronstadt when they alternated Mimi in *La Bohème* earlier this season, has a pretty ballad to sing with Huck and Jim.

A problem is the casting of Daniel H. Jenkins as Huckleberry Finn. There is nothing wrong with Mr Jenkins, whose acting and singing are charming, but not for a moment is he credible as a teenager. Huck is America's Peter Pan - the eternal boy longing for freedom and adventure - but not bereft, here, of his sexuality. In appearance and undisguisable sophistication, Mr Jenkins's manli-

ness is present rather than nascent, and his obvious adulthood deprives *Big River* of its innocent core.

More damaging is William Hauptman's book, which is workmanlike when it needs to be inspired. Both acts get stuck on mud-banks here and there; nevertheless *Big River* aims high and makes an honorable journey almost to the mark.

Way off centre are *Grind* (Mark Hellinger Theatre) and *Leader of the Pack* (Ambassador Theatre). Set in a Chicago burlesque house featuring black and white performers, *Grind* has some dazzling numbers staged by Hal Prince and choreographed by Lester Wilson. These, plus costumes and sets with just the believable blend of glitz and sleaze, promise much.

The performances range from outstanding (Timothy Nolen, an operatic baritone who is too good for his songs and undeveloped character) to very good (not a stellar rating for Ben Vereen, who did more with less in *Pippin*), but all bog down in Fay Kanin's lugubrious book.

We are frequently clubbed with messages about racial injustice, when

early scenes showing the theatre owner's frenzy to keep the races segregated onstage and backstage make that point firmly.

Leader of the Pack offers 24 songs by Ellie Greenwich (most written with partners, particularly her erstwhile husband, Jeff Barry). These are interrupted by naive vignettes of Ellie's life, culminating in an appearance for four numbers by the real Miss Greenwich (a good sport, but not a Broadway-calibre performer).

The only bearable aspect of the vignettes is brilliant and graceful acting, singing and dancing by Danah Manoff and Patrick Cassidy as young Ellie and Jeff. This is a show, however, flashily designed and slickly packaged for nostalgia buffs. They may actually like the story of how Ellie wrote "Be My Baby", "Do Wah Diddy", "Hanky Panky", "Da Doo Ron Ron", the title number and other songs which sold over 30 million records until the trend they set in the early 1960s was swamped by the Beatles. The numbers are lively, highlighted by a show-stopping performance of "River Deep, Mountain High" by Darlene Love.

PUBLISHING

Signs of success

The cult of the author, as opposed to that of the book, shows no sign of abating. Last year Alec Morrison and Rosemary Rayfield set up a book club, Modern First Editions, to capitalize upon this, the principle being that if you are inclined to buy a particular book you would do even better to have it signed by the author.

To become a member you are asked to pay £6 per annum. In return, three times a year you have the opportunity to purchase one or more from eight first editions, photographed by their writers. Titles already offered include J. G. Ballard's *Empire of the Sun*, Lisa St Aubin de Terán's *The Tiger*, Beryl Bainbridge's *Watson's Apology*, Len Deighton's *Mexico Set*, Erica Jong's *Furcutes and Kisses* and the occasional non-fiction title such as Arthur Marshall's *Life's Rich Pageant*.

The brochure states that you pay the same as you would in a bookshop, plus a "standard" charge of £1.50 for packing and postage for each book. "By special arrangement with the publishers, the authors... have agreed to sign 150 copies of their books." I do not know how many subscribers Modern First Editions have, but if you were the 151st person to request *Empire of the Sun* presumably you would be disappointed.

The fact is that most authors, especially "literary" novelists, are delighted to be asked to sign their books, either in a bookshop or on a visit to their publishers or even - if the admiring reader encloses return postage and packing - through the post.

As the brochure says, "You could, of course, obtain the books from a bookshop and save the cost of p & p - not to mention the £6 - but many books nowadays are reprinted even before the official publication date and it can be hard to track down a genuine 'first edition'."

This sounds terribly romantic. What is an "unofficial" publication date? "A genuine first edition" suggests that improper or pirated editions of these books are pouring from the presses. It is the case, owing to Booker Prize euphoria, that *Empire of the Sun* was reprinted prior to publication but this, these days, is exceedingly unusual for a literary novel.

Modern First Editions (the address is 87 Howard's Lane, London SW15 6NU) is a worthwhile enterprise, and I do not intend to sneer at it. The new list of eight titles includes Anthony Burgess's *The Kingdom of the Wicked*, A. S. Byatt's *Still Life*, Jonathan Raban's *Foreign Land*, Jane Gardam's *Crusoe's Daughter* and Richard Cobb's *A Classical Education*. If you wish someone other than the US rights to decide upon which new books you should buy and which, like wine, may be worth laying down for the future, Modern First Editions is a sensible bet.

Now here is something rum. At the recent Booksellers' Conference Tim Waterstone rounded on booksellers who were critical of publishers for selling through department stores and other "non-traditional" outlets: all ways should be tried for finding new buyers for British books.

In the current issue of the *New York Review of Books* Waterstone offers readers "a huge range of nearly 100,000 new and stock titles which can be mailed anywhere in the world". The justification is that "With current exchange rates, British books are now around HALF the price of books published in the US".

Bully for Mr Waterstone, who knows his American book trade as he used to run W. H. Smith's business there. But is he intending to ask the British publisher each time a book is ordered from the States whether the US rights in the title have been sold to an American publisher? If they have, then it is a violation of the agreement to supply books from London to the USA.

E.J. Craddock

Television

The Fates exact a dreadful revenge

There are countries in the world which come to a curfew-like halt when *Dynasty* is shown. One way of explaining its universal appeal is to compare the soap, extremely fleeting, with Greek tragedy. The same instincts seem to be tapped, those thrown up by ruling families and their destructive passions - only in place of unpredictable Furies you have fluctuating oil prices; instead of Medea you have Joan Collins and instead of Sophocles one Edward DeBazis.

Last night's episode (BBC 1) would certainly have been all Greek to anyone tuning in for the first time. Considering what the characters had to say, it was perhaps just as well that money did most of the talking.

Part. Creon, part. Oedipus,

Blake Carrington presides with a manic stare over his crumbling and depraved empire. The sure, is indiscriminate but understandable. Everyone he meets has claims to be his child or his former wife's child or his long-lost black half-sister. "I don't care what it takes or what it costs," he snaps down the phone in his dressing gown. (In *Dynasty* everyone is always on the phone or in a dressing gown.) He is trying to find something out about his former wife's long-lost daughter, Amanda - namely her parentage. The daughter - in real life the daughter of a Yugoslav princess - also wants to discover the name of her father. Not that she conveys this very well. Catherine Oxenberg may

be awfully pretty but she is a pretty awful actress. When she asks her mother Alexis, who sports a purple nightgown, you feel she would also like to know the name of Alexis's hairdresser (the name of the programme's hair-stylist, incidentally, is Susan Mills Liguori, after the head of wardrobe probably the most important person on the set).

Blake invites Amanda to dinner. "Wear something kind of fancy," he says. She does, but so does Krystle (sic), his pregnant wife. "That's the most beautiful maternity gown I've ever seen," Amanda tells Krystle, who peers out from under a blonde fringe pursuing her luscious lips. Even as they tuck into their vichyssoise Blake is hatching a plot in Istanbul.

Turkey, to avenge himself on a business rival. The plot goes wrong. The man is shot dead and the Fates exact their own dreadful revenge - another episode.

A shooting was at the heart of *La Piovra* (Channel 4), the first of an Italian drama series about a dynasty quite as powerful as the Carringtons - the Mafia. A detective come to replace his murdered colleague soon finds himself caught up in druggy aristocrats and shifty bankers. Racially directed by Damiano Damiani, it managed to hint plausibly at the unseen threat and eyes of the Mafia and the bonds by which they exert their hold on Sicilian society.

Nicholas Shakespeare

Jazz-Rock

Sting

Mogador Theatre, Paris

For his solo debut Sting has recruited an aggregate of the finest jazz-rock players in the business. That he can command the services of such heavyweight musicians as the drummer Omar Hakim (Weather Report), the bassist Darrell Jones (Miles Davis Band), the keyboardist Kenny Kirkland and the saxophonist Brandon Marsalis is as much a mark of the respect with which Sting is regarded as a musician as it is of

his ability to pay the doubtless enormous wages bill. As one might expect, the show was a highly sophisticated exposition, featuring songs from the forthcoming album *The Dream of the Blue Turtles* and a few *Police* numbers reworked in a jazz or funk vein. Although it was interesting to hear the latter, particularly the sweet soul music version of "Bring On the Night", it must be said that they lacked the taut attack of the original versions and could be described, appropriately in this city, as *trés chic*.

The new material was more promising, particularly where

the band was able to hit a cool swing stride as on "Consider Me Gone" and "Moon Over Bourbon Street". Sting was in fine voice, Brandon Marsalis's sax glided the performance throughout with its rich, resonant timbre, and Omar Hakim played a fierce drum section during the climax of "I Burn for You" (from *Brimstone and Treacle*).

What seemed to be missing was a sense of adventure. From Sting's work as the *Police*, but, whereas Andy Summers and Stewart Copeland's individual projects have revealed a

more radical side to their musicianship, Sting's need to experiment, though partly fulfilled, has been subjugated to his desire to keep an eye on the main chance.

Many of the numbers played were skilful and unusual pop songs which will provide Sting with the hit records he desires. But the live performance would have benefited immeasurably by the musicians being given their heads more freely and being less confined to the role of a backing band.

David Sinclair

Theatre in London

Verbosity in obscurity

Waste Lyric

Harley Granville Barker wrote two versions of his play, in 1907 and 1926. This production, by John Barton, uses a composite text which leaves many of the political and ecclesiastical references obscure and which in its length and verbosity frequently seems the result of clumsy confusion. I know nothing about the campaign in the first decade of this century to disestablish the Church of England in order to redirect its income towards educational foundations of a Utopian character, and on Friday night's evidence I should guess that very few of the audience were any wiser than myself.

The action of the piece concerns the fall from grace of a political wonder. His burning concern with Disestablishment leads him to consider a position in the Tory Cabinet of the day, a shady cabal of cynics and fixers.

We first meet some of them at the end of a country-house weekend where their ladies, bored with Bach and Beethoven, are obviously itching to wield the distaff in a wider arena than the drawing room. The only one

who does have a direct bearing on the subsequent action, an outsider named Amy O'Connell, is at once identifiable by her flaming scarlet dress; we can guess already that her influence will be disastrous.

Judi Dench has two items of equipment necessary to tackle such a role: her supple voice, which seems to have not so much a catch in it as a whole string of hooks, and her extraordinary locomotion which can only be described (in this setting, in these gorgeous dresses) as a sashay. When she crosses the stage her head and body look to be swivelling in two or three directions at once, and it is a source of unfailing interest to speculate as to the posture in which each of her seductive prowls will leave her. In case this sounds comical, I should stress that its effect is utterly absorbing - the more so, perhaps, since the character she plays has so little development and (in common with the rest) so few decent lines to deliver.

The man she diverts from his career, who impregnates her and who is ultimately brought down by the scandal that ensues from her attempted abortion and death, is played by Daniel Massey. Mr Massey has an

heroic profile and to start with at least impelling stage presence: we really do feel his charismatic power. Until, that is, we start to notice his creaking voice, his exaggeratedly stiff attitudes, the way he says "gonna" and "political". It is a vast relief when Charles Kay, as Lord Charles Cautelupé, brings his fastidious, churchy voice into the reckoning, even though their intellectual confrontation sinks in a quagmire of wordy cleverness.

Cleverness is the own-goal of the whole play. This is Saki-land, thumpingly extended, with the bulk of the dialogue consisting of epigrammatic drolleries which prove to be something less than droll when you listen closely: a bogus, dinner-party form of wit, in a true comedy of manners this might be a positive advantage, but it does the play's tragic theme a crippling disservice. The *ideas* of the piece - the role of the Church, the mechanics of Cabinet government, the injustice done to women in a society founded on hypocrisy - might make a stimulating read on a rainy afternoon, but do not add up to much of an evening at the theatre.

Martin Cropper

Concert

SCO/Kojian

Queen Elizabeth Hall

One minor but still distressing aspect of Lebanon's tragic recent history has been the disintegration of cultural activity in what was a land of great artistic fertility. Lebanese musicians have always been adept at absorbing influences from many quarters, but in the last 30 years there has been a particularly remarkable musical renaissance. Focused on the American University and the National Conservatory of Music in Beirut, it has produced a crop of distinguished composers and performers, some of whom have fused Arabic and Western techniques with considerable subtlety.

Those days of happily heterogeneous creativity may eventually return to Beirut. Meanwhile many of Lebanon's brightest talents are active in Europe and

America, and on Saturday the British Lebanese Association (founded last October) provided a London showcase for three of them. With many Lebanese present, and with the Lebanese Red Cross collecting at the door, it might have been an appropriate occasion to play some Lebanese music: a work by the highly-regarded Tawfik Saba Succar, perhaps. As it was, the American-based conductor Varujan Kojian chose to make his British debut with Mozart and Schubert symphonies.

He obtained next ensemble, a good response to dynamic indications and a warm, well-balanced instrumental blend, with an especially firm bass line in the scurrying finale of the "Haffner". The same work's minuet did seem ponderously paced, whereas in Schubert's Third Symphony the speed were just right. Here the wind principals of the on-form Scottish Chamber Orchestra made the most of their arching solos, and Kojian judged the

balance between the skittish and the heroic carefully.

Also making his British debut, the trumpeter Nassim Maalouf chose a Vivaldi concerto, originally for oboe and violin but effectively transcribed for piccolo trumpet. He tongued nimbly and securely, with his strong vibrato and legato phrasing presenting a striking contrast to current British styles of baroque trumpet playing.

A more familiar figure to us is the flautist Wissam Boustany, whose full-bodied tone (especially low down), excellent dynamic control and mercurial fingering were well served by the quirky and diverting C. P. E. Bach Concerto in G. Boustany's main problem is his high-voltage personality, which causes him to rush passagework unnecessarily, and to indulge in a pantomime of emotional gestures during orchestral ritornelli.

Richard Morrison

Opera

La Bohème Covent Garden

Alongside its starry cast, sumptuously sung, *Samson et Dalila* Covent Garden is running at the moment a *Bohème* of more modest aspirations. John Copley's staging of Puccini, one of the liveliest and most sympathetic productions he has done for the Royal Opera, has rarely been far from the repertoire since it was first seen in 1974 and it too has housed stars aplenty during its time. But in this revival, rehearsed by Richard Gregson, the Bohemians and friends are sung by those moving up the international league rather than the singers sitting at the top of it.

All the principals are new. By far the most accomplished and attractive performance comes from Gino Quilico, whose praises have been sung often enough on this page from Paris and elsewhere, as Marcello. Had nature made Quilico a tenor rather than a high baritone then he would have been natural casting for Rodolfo. His bearded, romantic good looks, his lithe movements and his constant involvement with everything happening onstage would have turned any Mimi's head at the guttering of a candle. As it stands, it is a wonder that Musetta (a disappointingly breathy performance from Nelly Miricioiu in a role that scarcely shows her at her best) should leave such a warm-voiced male for a tedious old sugar daddy like Alcindo. The Hungarian tenor Dénes



Most accomplished, most attractive: Gino Quilico with Nelly Miricioiu

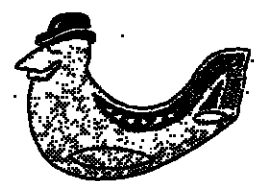
Gulyás, who has a stack of engagements in the West over the next few months, started indifferently in his house debut as Rodolfo. He lumbered around the stage while Quilico effervesced, but he progressed with the evening, displaying pretty and boyish head tones, especially in the "Addio dolce svegliare" duet with Mimi in Act III. There is promise in plenty here but the interpretation needs more all-round polish.

Ana Maria Gonzalez was moved up from Musetta to Mimi after the withdrawal of Gabriela Benackova and this sounded very much like a mistake. Her soprano is too hard to give that feeling of fragility that all the best postwar Minis, from de los Angeles to Cotrubas, have achieved. Now Musetta would have been a different matter. . . . Matthew

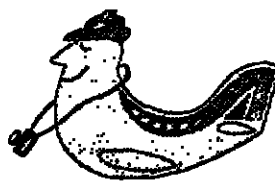
Best (good tone but plummy) completed the quartet of Bohemians as Colline and Schuarnard, all very different characters as Puccini intended beneath their Paris rooftops. Covent Garden were wise to employ an experienced head in the shape of Silvio Varviso, who in fact was the conductor back in 1974, to keep the young singers together. And that is exactly what he did, courteously and unobtrusively, in the first two acts while they were all finding their stage legs before putting his own gentle imprint on the score in the second half of the opera. Musetta's lap dog still narrowly escapes being served up on a silver in the Café Momus, I am glad to say, as he is passed from hand to hand in Act II before ending up in the arms of a sweating chef before a burning fiery furnace.

John Higgins

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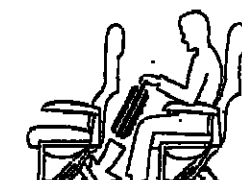
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A weed among the flowers

by Graham Greene



Despite his celebrated fictional travels with his aunt, Graham Greene, the novelist, is at his happiest when voyaging alone. Today we publish for the first time Greene's account of a trip to China in 1957 which, contrary to his wishes, he was to share with the late Lord Chorley and a Hampstead communist by the name of Mrs Smith. The following text came to London, like most of his communications, from Antibes in the south of France, by way of his sister Elizabeth Dennys in Sussex. Seasoned connoisseurs of Greenery will recognize the style as a mixture of his travel writing and his "entertainments". Chronologically, the China trip which tested his tolerance comes between the publication of one of his finest serious novels, *The Quiet American* (1955), set in south-east Asia, and his Cuban comedy *Our Man in Havana* (1958). Now read on.

I little knew the turbulent time which lay ahead of me when on the telephone my friend Margaret Lane invited me, subject to the consent of the Chinese authorities, to join a little party including herself and her husband for a month's visit to China in April 1957. It was during that deceptively hopeful season of the Hundred Flowers and I accepted the idea with enthusiasm. When I visited the Chinese Embassy I gathered that all was in order.

At London Airport I was a little disappointed when I found myself without my friends, who were apparently leaving some weeks later in another group. So here we were on the tarmac, four of us, all strangers to each other: myself, Lord Chorley, who was a distinguished socialist lawyer, a Mrs Smith, a communist lady from Hampstead, and a professor whose name I didn't at first catch. His subject, Comparative Education, was something then quite unknown to me and I shall continue to call him the Professor since as it turned out I was to behave quite abominably to him. I was even to behave abominably to the innocent Lord Chorley, but Lord Chorley is dead and he will not be hurt by anything I may write.

The trouble didn't start at the first stage, which brought us to Moscow where we changed planes, nor on the 48 hours one which followed in those distant days before the jet to Peking, so perhaps the Mou-Tai which we learnt to appreciate after we arrived in China, may have contributed a little to the trouble I caused. We saw little of each other between planes in Moscow and were still a friendly party when we changed to a Chinese plane in Mongolia at Ulan Bator. It was a very rough descent to Peking and I asked the air hostess why we didn't wear safety belts. "Oh", she said, "of course we had safety belts at first, but now our pilots are so reliable."

I think it may have been my deeply rooted preference to travelling by myself which began the trouble. To misquote Kipling, "He travels better who travels alone". When we arrived at Peking airport we were entertained at once with tea, sitting on the uncomfortable classical Chinese chairs, and we were asked where we wanted to go. Here was my opportunity, I thought, to be alone, so before anybody else could speak I said: "I want to go to your ancient capital Sian, then I want

to go to Chungking, and then I want to take a boat down the Yangtze-kiang to Hangkew and then return to Peking by train." There was a pause for someone else to speak but then, to my dismay, my three companions agreed with my plan. We were doomed to be together. So what?

No trouble at first. We were told that we must wait for the second party before we visited all the right tourist attractions - and how marvellous they are - the Forbidden City, the Great Wall, the Ming Tombs - nothing in the West can compare with them. A few days had to pass before we flew to Sian and my companions got involved with serious visits to factories and educational establishments and scientific institutes, but I was able to excuse myself, as I had made friends with a gigantic tricycle driver who was ready to take me shopping in the back lanes of the old city. He was probably a police informer, but what did I care? I was innocent of any espionage intentions, I was happy to be alone, buying a case of inks here and an attractive padded jacket there for a friend at home. He even spoke a bit of English which made it even more probable that he was an informer, and I liked him better for wasting his time with me. Perhaps my desire to be alone justified a certain suspicion.

We had now been allotted two guides, a young man and a girl (the girl I suppose to chaperone Mrs Smith). Both were kind, patient and charming. At some point in our travels we visited a collective farm and I questioned our male guide about contraception. "Of course," he told me, "it is encouraged and widely practised."

"In this village, for example, there would be a chemist shop?"

"Yes. Yes. In all places."

"Where a man can buy a sheath?"

"Yes, yes, of course."

"Would you mind going and buying one for me?"

He hesitated a long while before he found his reply. "That I cannot do. You see I do not know your size."

It was at Sian that I began my addiction to that dangerous drink, Mou-Tai, which has an alcoholic content of between 50° and 60°. I had been told by an expert that outside the great cities one should choose the



diest restaurants to eat in and this proved to be true in Sian where the Mou-Tai was also of first class quality, which perhaps explains gaps in my memory. I only half remember in Sian watching a Peking opera modern style where girls sold refreshments during the performance like the orange girls in Stuart London, but they sold not oranges but pickled garlic.

Perhaps already I was feeling a certain irritation with the Professor who seemed to me, I am sure quite unjustly, to speak in paragraphs even when replying to such a simple statement as: "It looks like being a good day."

"Yes," he would reply, "when I went to bed last night I noticed that there was a slight breeze coming from the west and I believe..."

Anyway Mou-Tai, even without the Professor, would probably have been my downfall. I bought a small bottle to take with me on the very small plane in which we flew to Chungking where the real troubles began. On the plane, as it descended, the Mou-Tai blew out its inadequate cork and the fumes filled the cabin.

The airport is on the top of the hill which dominates Chungking. A group of our hosts were waiting for us with cars to take us down into the city. We all smelt of Mou-Tai. But I was avaciously guarding what was left in the bottle, having made an even more inadequate cork with a spoon of paper.

A young man ushered me into a taxi. He spoke excellent English and he began to tell me how timely our visit was, for a festival was being held in Chungking for that great English poet, Robert Burns, and the guest of honour was another great English poet who had written an ode to Lenin, Hugh Mac Mac.

"Diarmid?" I suggested correctly. "I am a little poet myself," he went on, "and I admire much the poetry of Robert..."

He broke off abruptly. I looked at him. The colour of his face was a strange shade of green. He gestured

wildly with his hand. I realized that he was trying to indicate the bottle of Mou-Tai - such a small bottle to cause so much distress. With regret I threw it out of the window and my companion was reproachfully silent as we made the long circular drive down into Chungking. (I met MacDiarmid a few days later at the festival. I think he was a little annoyed at the presence of an English writer at a Burns festival, but when I spoke to him about the blends of Scotch which I preferred he became friendly).



We were lodged in a very comfortable hotel architecturally based on the Temple of Heaven in Peking and we won golden opinions, when we were asked whether we preferred European or Chinese food, by giving the right answer. Our Russian fellow guests (it was still the period of *entente*) had chosen European, and there were large crates of food from Moscow outside the back door. As a reward we were taken into the kitchen and introduced to the chef who was secretary of the local Communist Party.

The golden opinions cannot have lasted long. The Mayor of Chungking invited us to dinner at the hotel, and the chef surpassed himself. The food was Szechuan which is justly regarded

as the best in China. The Mou-Tai too was excellent. The trouble which had so long been brewing between me and the Professor switched suddenly and unexpectedly and Lord Chorley was the victim.

I had been asked in London to enquire into the fate of an imprisoned writer called, I seem to remember, Mr Hu Feng. As we relaxed over the Mou-Tai at the end of our magnificent meal I asked the Mayor if he happened to know anything about the case of Mr Hu Feng. "Oh, of course, yes," he replied, "Mr Hu Feng is a citizen of Chungking."

"Then I suppose," I went on with a certain lack of tact, "you will be relieved when he is at last brought to trial and you will learn whether he is guilty or innocent."

"He must be guilty," the Mayor replied, "or he would never have been arrested."

There was what seemed a long moment of silence. I think all four of us were a little stunned, even Mrs Smith, by the frankness of his reply. Then Lord Chorley spoke up to ease the embarrassment and only made it worse. He even rose to his feet to emphasize the serious intent of his words.

"All of us here," he said, "realize the special difficulties you suffer from in the People's Republic, overrun as you are by spies from Taiwan."

The image of the *Times* map flashed before my eyes - the huge white patch of China extending from Canton in the south to the wastes of Sinkiang and in the far north to Mongolia and off-set, like a little green ear drop, Taiwan. China "overrun" by spies? Excited as I was no doubt by the Mou-Tai I too scrambled to my feet. I was deeply shocked, I said, to hear an English lawyer speak in such outrageous terms. Was a man considered in his eyes to be guilty without being tried? In that case I must refuse to travel any further in Lord Chorley's company. The dinner party broke up.

Next day was Easter Day. I attended a crowded Mass in the Catholic cathedral and when I returned to the hotel I felt a sense of guilt, which was increased when Lord Chorley met me and held out his hand and apologized for his conduct. The apology of course should have been mine. However, we shook hands and forgave each other and next day found us quite amicably sharing a cabin on the boat to Hangkew.

The only irritant in the party was now the Professor who continued to talk in paragraphs. He shared a cabin with our male guide and Mrs Smith, who remained in a kind motherly way superior to our quarrels, shared a cabin with the young woman guide. She was always quite beautifully calm and a credit, I felt, to her communist faith. Half the boat was given over to soldiers for whom patriotic music was played throughout the day. The four of us were partitioned off from them in a sort of first-class of which we were the only members.

I do not remember whether it was the first night or the second night on board, after dinner on deck and of course some glasses of that insidious Mou-Tai, that I could bear the Professor's paragraphs no longer. Our voices were raised. I forget what terms I used, they must have been severe, for the Professor threatened to throw me into the Yangtze-kiang. I expect it was Mrs Smith who calmed things down and we went to bed.

In the middle of the night I was woken by extraordinary noises, as though somebody was being strangled. They seemed to come from next door and I thought at once of the dangerous Professor. He too had drunk a lot of Mou-Tai. Was he assaulting his cabin companion, our young and friendly guide? The choking sounds continued. I looked across the cabin at Lord Chorley. He was sleeping peacefully. Something had to be done. I got up and went into the corridor and banged furiously on the Professor's door. "Stop that... noise, you bugger," I shouted. There was silence and I went back to bed.

I fell asleep, but when I woke again it

was to the same strangled cries of strangulation, only this time they seemed to come from the deck above. Had our guide escaped there and been pursued by the murderous Professor? Would he, as a substitute for me, be flung into the Yangtze-kiang? After a look at Lord Chorley, who slept peacefully on, I left the cabin to go on deck, but then I realized the true origin of the strange sounds. It was just the Chinese language. The cooks were talking to each other in the kitchen.

Next morning when we were all together Mrs Smith remarked with motherly disapproval: "Mr Greene, why were you shouting those bad words in the passage last night?"

I explained how I had feared that the Professor was strangling our guide. I don't know what the Professor thought, but I had the feeling that then and there I gained the guide's trust and friendship.

I had quarrelled with Lord Chorley. I had quarrelled with the Professor. There was no one else left to quarrel with for no one, I believed, could possibly quarrel with Mrs Smith. Our short stay in Nankow was peaceful and so was our train journey back to Peking (I appreciated the Chinese thoughtfulness in providing fly-flippers in the restaurant car), and it was a relief to me to learn in the hotel that the Margaret Lane group had arrived.



Only one thing went wrong. Both parties were expected to take tea with the Minister of Culture, but we were nearly an hour late in joining him because Miss Beryl de Zoete, the dancer and companion of Arthur Waley, had got locked in her lavatory and nobody seemed able to open the door.

Together we did the tourists' sights and then the Lane party left on the route they had chosen and we four were entertained at a farewell dinner outside Peking. I am sure that the occasion would have gone off splendidly if I hadn't been there.

Lord Chorley made an impeccably brief speech of thanks, but then to my dismay the Professor found it necessary to make another speech which threatened to be as long as the longest of his paragraphs and which gave me time to drink another glass of Mou-Tai. The Professor began: "I want to join my thanks to those of Lord Chorley so admirably expressed by him, and I want to add only one thing: that we have paid our Chinese hosts - not to speak of our two friendly and efficient guides - perhaps the greatest compliment in our power by behaving with such complete naturalness in their presence, and moreover I feel..."

I could bear no more of it. I rose in a rage to my feet. "We have done nothing of the sort," I said. "We have behaved abominably and we owe our hosts a very deep apology." The Professor sat down and the party ended, but before we left the Professor took me on one side. He was not angry. He was only hurt. "I do wish you hadn't interrupted my speech, Greene," he said. "You cannot have realized the circumstances which made it so necessary. You see this afternoon Lord Chorley quarrelled with Mrs Smith."

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Illustrations by Paul Leith

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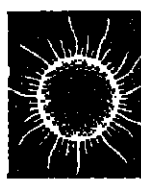
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Sea urchins going strong



Sea urchins are doing very well against the depredations of fishermen who scoop them up by the thousand to sell their shells to the world's curio shops. Nearly two million of the creatures are estimated to be living between Cornish headlands only 25 miles apart. That, says Professor David Nichols of Exeter University, is because only the most mature samples, of a least 10 centimetres across, are taken. Similar growth patterns are indicated for urchins in Scotland and the south-west. So collectors need have no worries about depleting stocks.

When disturbed, urchins always migrate upwards; if an urchin falls from its feeding site, it can then regain its original position.

Urchins have shown a remarkable ability to recolonize fast. In Scotland an island reef was inhabited within a mere six weeks. The animals apparently rolled in water currents while wrapped in seaweed - they are the main browsers of kelp. As for their own edibility, that's considered best in February.

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: COASTAL BIOLOGY

Laid back leatherback

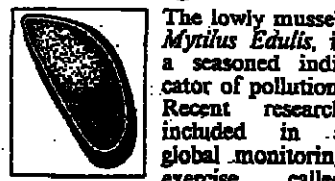


Leatherback turtles visiting British waters, thousands of miles from their tropical breeding grounds, are no strays according to scientists who have logged turtle discoveries off Wales and Ireland. They come north in the warmer summer in search of jelly fish and during a lifespan swim hundreds of thousands of miles - a matter of particular interest as only about 250,000 are thought to be living. Once leatherbacks reach maturity and grow to six feet across they have few enemies beyond sharks.

As you dip a toe into that busy rockpool, consider the struggle for existence that goes on for a fine green seaweed called *Cladophora*. Dr John Davenport, of University College of North Wales, simulated rockpools with salinity varying from 34 parts per thousand down to two parts. *Cladophora*'s ability to photosynthesize was halved in the nearly fresh water. Salinity studies (measuring the

amino acids which are produced when the salt content is reduced) are relevant where the soil has a high salt content.

Trailblazing mussel



The lowly mussel, *Mytilus Edulis*, is a seasoned indicator of pollution. Recent research included in a global monitoring exercise called

Mussel Watch has measured the amount of heavy metal in the animal's environment that will kill it. The Marine Science Laboratories at University College of North Wales used laser technology to achieve almost perfect accuracy. The result: the mussel's growth is seriously inhibited by five parts copper per billion of seawater - a level quite common in industrialized estuaries. Twenty parts will stop growth and are lethal within about a month.

Marine biologists expect mussels to live for 20 years in unpolluted seas. Unfortunately once copper contamination sets in it remains, and the metal lies in the sediment for ages.

Double helpings

A project to boost lobster stocks has fooled them into breeding twice a year. The secret is raising water in tanks to 20°C to accelerate egg development. Cylindrical water circulation in six bins each with 3,000 larvae has reduced cannibalism. Even so mortality at two weeks is 90 per cent according to the Lancashire and Western Sea Fisheries

battery in north Wales. The hatchery will release 6,000 young lobsters off the Lleyn peninsula into the Irish Sea this year.

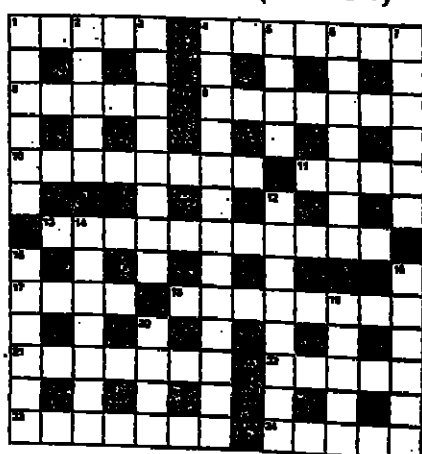
What are the chances of reaching maturity? A pilot study off the Yorkshire coast showed that 90 per cent of infant lobsters established themselves in defensible positions within minutes of reaching freedom.

Ann Hills

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 654)

- ACROSS
4 Most important (5)
8 David's son (7)
8 Arrow-like weapon (5)
9 Ensure obedience (7)
10 German motorway (8)
11 Impudence (4)
13 Tied game play-off (6,3)
17 Dollar (4)
18 Large statue (8)
21 Frank (7)
22 Golden apples goddess (5)
23 Trooper (7)
24 Darkness (5)

- DOWN
1 Offhand (6)
2 In other words (2,3)
3 Warn of (8)
4 One-upmanship author (7,6)
5 Roof space (4)
6 Sarcastic (7)



- 7 Grad (6)
12 Piety (8)
14 Bad-mannered (7)
15 Tolerates (6)
16 With oblique look (6)
19 Hurled (5)
20 Indian dress (4)

MONDAY PAGE

Cory Aquino, thrust into the political limelight on the assassination of her husband in 1983, has become a symbol of hope for thousands of Filipinos. Philip Jacobson reports

The title of First Lady of the Philippines belongs to the one and only Imelda Marcos. It would be hard to come up with a sharper contrast to this worldly and glamorous figure than Mrs Corason Aquino, who describes herself as "a rather ordinary 52-year-old grandmother with a loathing of the limelight". Yet millions of ordinary Filipinos today look to "Cory" Aquino, and not Imelda, as a symbol of hope for their sorely troubled country. In her, they find qualities of modesty, courage and integrity that few would ever associate with the grand celebrity lording it over them from the presidential palace at Malacanang.

Cory Aquino was thrust into the limelight in the cruellest fashion with the assassination of her husband Benigno known to all as "Ninoy" before scores of horrified spectators at Manila airport in August 1983. The only Filipino opposition figure of any real stature, Aquino was returning from voluntary exile in the United States intent on challenging the increasingly unpopular regime of President Ferdinand Marcos.

There are those close to Cory who say that she hated the idea of her husband plunging back into the murky, often violent, world of politics in the Philippines. He was, after all, the first person Marcos had locked up on declaring martial law almost a decade earlier. For seven years, Cory and their children - four daughters, one son - saw him only on weekly visits to a military prison for much of that time. He was under sentence of death on murder and subversion charges which even enemies considered were trumped-up.

Not until 1980 were the Aquinos finally reunited, after he was released to have open-heart surgery abroad. Cory was not sorry to settle into a comfortable enough new life near Boston, Massachusetts, where her husband had been offered academic research fellowships (the first New England winter, she recalls, was a great shock to someone from the usually hot and sticky Philippines). But, as she observed today: "Politics were Ninoy's first love and we always had a stream of opposition people from home passing through the house. As soon as it began to look as if Marcos really was tottering, I realized that nothing could keep him from going back."

Despite rumours of a plot to kill him on his arrival - even a veiled warning from Imelda Marcos herself - Aquino set off, leaving Cory to wind up the odds and ends of three years in exile. As soon as she heard of his death, she flew immediately after military escorts removed him from his plane, she booked on to the next flight to Manila. "I had no idea what to expect, but no one was going to stop me from burying Ninoy myself."

Two million Filipinos turned out for Aquino's funeral in a great outpouring of sorrow and anger at the suspected involvement of the Marcos camp in the assassination. "In the middle of the service, I suddenly felt quite overwhelmed and a bit sick," Cory recalls. "It occurred to me with great force that my life was never going to be strictly my own any more." I saw her not long afterwards, at the head of one of the massive protest demonstrations rocking Manila, a small, bespectacled woman in black, looking understandably apprehensive as she linked arms with opposition leaders.

A lot of blood was being spilled in the streets then: the women and suffragettes, heat Cory looked quite shellshocked with grief and fatigue. A Filipino journalist with me was sure she would never last the pace. "She'll go back to Boston with the children," he predicted. "Cory isn't cut out for the way they play politics here."



Cory Aquino, who returned to the Philippines: "No one was going to stop me burying Ninoy myself."

A brave voice among the blood and bullets

Today, in the words of one admirer, "Cory belongs to the nation". No other public figure inspires such genuine trust and affection at street level: informal polls put her far ahead of the field, Imelda included, as the most popular woman in the country.

"My goodness, property of the Philippines, what a fate!" she says with a laugh, leaning back behind her desk in an office in Manila's financial district.

"Courageous souls can awaken the people"

Some time ago, she abandoned the mourning dresses she wore in public after the assassination. In bright yellow now, the colour associated with the anti-Marcos protest movement, she radiates a very Filipino warmth and charm, quick to smile, hands never still. "Well, if the nation wants me, who am I to argue? I made up my mind after Ninoy was buried that I had to contribute something here. He never lost faith in the Filipinos, even when they were driving him crazy. He always said a few courageous souls can awaken the people. I'm not at all brave, but I have to try my best."

Like his deadly rival, Marcos, Ninoy Aquino was a vital and

charismatic man of great energy, accustomed to getting his own way. Throughout their 28 years of marriage, friends say, he completely overshadowed Cory publicly and in private. Even in the United States, which she knew far better than he - having graduated in French and mathematics at college there - she would slip away after dinner to wash up or be with their youngest girl, Kristina, while the men got down to the *chismis* (gossip) from Manila. How amazing, returning visitors would relate, to find a daughter of the Cojuangco clan, the rich and powerful coconut barons of the Philippines, apparently quite happy to keep house without a single live-in maid.

Cory was perfectly aware of the whippersnapper and quite troubled by them. "What you have to understand is that all Filipino men are born chauvinists, and Ninoy was certainly no exception. He automatically expected women around him to stay firmly in the background while he got on with the serious business of politics." That suited her fine, Cory explains. "My family, the Cojuangcos, have always been in the thick of things in the Philippines, usually opposed to the government. Ninoy's family were the same. As far as I was concerned, having seen it all from the inside, I was perfectly happy to take a back seat, believe me."

Ironically, Cory finds herself involved with a branch of the

clan that is bitterly opposed to the regime (causing a deep split with other Cojuangcos who have prospered mightily from association with the Marcos "magic circle"). Her main interest is running the Benigno Aquino Foundation, dedicated to "achieving truth, justice and freedom in the Philippines".

To western eyes, there may be something profoundly macabre about a travelling road show that takes the blood-stained bullet-proof jacket Aquino was wearing when he died, the hospital gown in which he was brought home and a collection of his personal effects, around the many islands. But for Filipinos, politics have always been intensely personalized, a dramatic and emotional affair, and they flock in their thousands to hear Cory speak, besieging her for autographs on Ninoy T-shirts or a protest poster.

"Among young people in particular there is enormous curiosity about a man most saw for the first time lying in his own blood. There's so much cynicism and despair about politics here that they respond very warmly to the idea that my husband actually sacrificed his life for a cause."

Those who know Cory Aquino well are fascinated by the continuing emergence of an extremely shrewd and, when the occasion demands it, steely operator from the dutiful wife who used to creep into Ninoy's

meetings with the coffee. She still dislikes being called a politician - "Can't we say a former housewife who finds herself thrown into politics?" - but since her husband's death, she has arrived at a clear and notably unsentimental view of her value to the anti-Marcos cause.

A small circle of trusted friends now act as watchdogs, attempting to protect her from the several opposition factions eager to exploit her name (including, say the uncharitable, the group led by her ambitious brother-in-law, "Buz" Aquino). Somewhat to her surprise, Cory has also acquired to good effect the art of losing her temper. When I last saw her, she was weary from efforts to persuade the hopelessly fragmented opposition to agree at least on a method by which they would pick potential candidates to run against Marcos in the presidential election scheduled for 1987.

At one particularly frustrating meeting, she confessed not a bit regretfully, she began shouting so loud that you could hear her across the street. She was fed up, she yelled at the startled all-male group, with being treated as the Widow Aquino, without a mind or voice of her own. "I know I'm not brilliant," she said later, "but it's high time some people credited me with a little intelligence. I only do things I believe in, and *nobody* is going to force me into any other situation."

With the exception of Kristina, now aged 14, Cory's children have settled into good jobs around Manila, accepting the Philippines as their home again. The family have always been close and tragedy has strengthened their bonds. Kristina is clearly a handful, as headstrong and wilful at times, sighs Cory, as her father had been. "She was only 18 months old when they took Ninoy off to jail. As she grew up I took her everywhere, to court hearings, to the jail, to meet church leaders and human rights groups. It gave her the belief that nothing is too impossible to attempt."

As for that other family, the Marcoses, whom a great many Filipinos will always believe were behind her husband's death, Cory harbours no burning personal hatred. She used to see Imelda frequently when they had children at the same school, but they have not met since the day, five years ago, when the Aquinos set off into exile.

"Her speeches are more assertive and challenging"

She refuses to be drawn about the many comparisons made between her and the vain, profligate First Lady and her court of sycophants. "Anyone would need enormous grace and control to remain modest with the sort of power Mrs Marcos enjoys."

Forgiveness is another matter. "Forgiveness for what?" she snaps, face suddenly colouring. "Who has ever acknowledged an iota of guilt for Ninoy's murder? The papers reported that the Marcoses sent me their sympathy, but I have not received a single word from them, not a single gesture of redemption like the release of political prisoners." There was once an invitation to celebrate the Marcoses' wedding anniversary, she recalls, delivered by a uniformed soldier. "It said RSVP, but I pretended I never arrived. Friends said I should have turned up to spoil their big day, but I felt that would have been rather cheap and dishonest."

As the Philippines slides deeper into trouble and decay, people ask increasingly whether Cory Aquino herself will end up running for the presidency. She keeps saying no, despite rumours that Imelda may be the government's candidate. On the other hand, her speeches are becoming distinctly more assertive and challenging, only a united opposition, she emphasizes, can hope to overthrow "the monster that has taken hold of our country". Considering the deeply uninspiring men who now head the main opposition groups, some shrewd observers believe that Cory is signalling her willingness to be wooed, but always on her own terms. "Ninoy confronted his destiny when he stepped off that plane at the airport," says one prominent journalist. "I believe that when Cory's moment comes, she will also put the Philippines first."

A stain on our reputation



BARBARA TONER

Family life is hard enough without the Highways Act 1980 (Sections 170/132/133) which deal with stains on carriages. We have had a threatening letter from the council warning us that unless we remove the stain from the carriage outside our house within 14 days, it will be done for us and we will have to pay for it.

When the letter arrived, five of us rushed as one to the gate in alarm and fear. "I've warned you before about staining the carriage," I shouted at the children. "That's the end of pocket money." They said it was the cat. My husband asked if the cat had been eating cement.

I sent the children for buckets of scalding water, mops, brooms, Flash and the scourer. It was hard to know where to start. Our carriage has never looked exactly unstained. With large drops of oil, splats of unidentifiable blue stuff and deeply suspect blobs of green, it has faded and received countless patches over the years.

Outside our house, the area in question was a sort of whitish square where the skip had been and a builder had mixed his cement. There are whitish bits all the way along the carriage-way where other skips have been because the area is being improved and there is no gutter. There is no gutter because time has taken the edge from the pavement. Without a gutter it is hard to wash stains away. Any civilised carriage-way dweller could tell the council that.

In the bitter cold of deep mid-winter, the family set to work. "You will be late when the carriage-way is clean and not before," I told the family. Eventually my husband straightened his carworn back and, wiping his rheumy eyes, glanced northwards along the ridge where a gutter might have been. "Stop," he declared. "We are being persecuted. No-one else has washed their stains away."

I brought the children in and banded their hands. We huddled around the kitchen window, looking for comfort at the new patio which had required the skip which had caused the stain and we asked ourselves: "Why?" Had the builder mortally offended our next door neighbour with his loud sweating and rude heaving? Had we failed to pay the water rates?

Was the Assistant Borough Engineer the man I had trodden on at the Post Office? My husband telephoned him. "I am not at liberty to discuss the matter," he replied, sounding as if he had a filing cabinet lodged in his larynx. "I cannot

say whether or not you have been reported by a neighbour. Nor is it my business to discuss the stains of your other neighbours. I can only urge you to clean your part of the carriage-way as quickly as possible.

We got the builder back and he poured acid or something all over the encrusted cement. It more or less did the trick but the rest of the carriage-way is as mottled as ever and we still have no gutter.

Whatever happened to the generation of children who walked the five miles to school each day barefoot to save the shoe leather? There are no signs in our family that the current generation would like to follow in its footsteps. It knows only of the "school run".

These involve mothers and fathers in modest four-door estate cars driving anything up to 25 children hundreds of miles a day between home, school, bus stops and railway stations.

Accidents happen. Children get left on the wrong doorstep and forced to join strange families despite their protests. "She isn't my mother."

"I'm sorry, Fiona, she will have to do."

There can be unlucky misunderstandings about whose turn it is to bring Fiona home, anyway.

"Sorry to be a bore but have you got Fiona with you?"

"Let me look..."

"No, that's not Fiona. She must be with Toby's mummy."

"Is that Toby's mummy? Did you collect Fiona?"

"As a matter of fact, I didn't," says Toby's mother after a pause. "I think I forgot her."

"Oh, that's all right then. Provided I know where she is."

Penny Perrick is on holiday

CONCISE JUMBO CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Answers to Saturday's puzzle

ACROSS: 1 War of American Independence 15 Ommatidia 16 Triskaidephobia 17 Ennui 18 Sunna 19 Eddying 20 Tapered 21 Grand Prix 22 Spectator 24 Creative 27 Adenoma 29 Espresso 31 Godparent 32 Impromptu 35 Sugar 37 Emasculator 39 Gainful 40 Bersuagier 42 Ashamed 44 Me first 45 Cognoscenti 46 Ignoble 48 Kulturkampf 51 Exams 52 Homestead 53 Open drain 55 Oblatory 58 Thyself 61 Task 62 Abandoned 64 Rich cloth 67 Cake tin 69 All told 70 Esker 72 Truss 73 St Francis of Assisi 74 Magnifico 75 Central Intelligence Agency
DOWN: 1 Wood engraving 2 Roman pace 3 Fat bird 4 Midos 5 Renard 6 Catharist 7 Nalvetre 8 Nakedness 9 Epidiascope 10 Emerge 11 Dead tired 12 No hope at all 13 Ember 14 Hard featured 22 Realpolitik 25 Inestimable 26 Ogham Irish 28 On offer 30 Rigmorale 33 Painfulness 34 Unbecoming 35 Spring 36 Reluctant 38 Charismatic 41 Eanes 43 Honorary 44 Make out a case 47 End of the story 49 Under strain 50 Football fan 54 Acts nicer 56 Longhouse 57 Reorienting 59 Election 60 Brakeham 63 Old girl 65 Cutting 66 Damsel 68 Kufic 71 Rogue



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Burning guilt when the safety net fails

Any parents of a toddler learn to live with their ears tuned to the pitch of potential disaster. Red alert sounds: you snatch them from the jaws of dogs, from the edges of stairs, from fire, from water, from noxious chemicals: most of the time, amazingly, the invisible safety net works.

My net failed some weeks ago. While I was on the phone, I watched my 14-month-old daughter, Poppy, pull a full teapot over her head. I am tempted to make excuses, to tell you that the teapot was almost in the middle of the table, safely out of swipe range. That I was on the phone, not for frivolous reasons, but making an appointment with an eye surgeon. You won't believe me, or at least I think you won't. Like all parents in this situation, I am still struggling with the rage, the shame and the guilt most parents of burned or scalded children experience.

As it turns out, I was lucky. My neighbour and friend, Sarah, is a nurse at St Lawrence's Hospital in Chesham, a hospital not 20 minutes from where we live and which has one of the best burns units in Britain. Sarah once told me that the first thing you must do

for a scalded child is to put the injured part into cold water. You must never try to drag off clothes, else you might remove the skin. Nor must you smother it in butter as old wives may have told you.

As I ran Poppy's head under the cold water tap, we both made sounds of horror. Her face went from crimson to purple, her eyes swelled up. I was sure my carelessness had ruined her lovely little face. Suddenly I saw steam rise off her chest and arms, I threw on more water. Too late. As my husband helped me take off her jersey, big wet blisters had already formed.

Half an hour later at St Lawrence's, a young Chinese doctor peered at Poppy's scalds and allayed our worst nightmares. The injuries were sufficiently serious for her to stay in hospital for five days, but the scalds appeared to be superficial and they covered less than 5 per cent of her body. There was always the risk of infection but they did not think she would need skin grafts. "Isn't that good, Mummy?" said a kindly nurse. Mummy felt like a stunned mallet. While they bandaged Poppy, I recalled a programme I had listened to recently on *Woman's*

FIRST PERSON
Julia Orange



Wendy Holt

How in which the staff of the Birmingham Burns Unit split out how easily the tender skins of children and babies are damaged by innocent cups of tea, by kettles, by nightdresses which go up in flames. One nurse had said it was difficult not to despise some mothers for

being so careless. Part of me had probably agreed with her. What kind of loon would expose a child to such obvious dangers? My kind of loon. A few seconds removed me from the group of right-minded people with fit children into the category of the ham-fisted and the accident-prone.

Dried, the ward where Poppy and I spent the next five days had three other babies in it and three mothers. The heavily bandaged toddler in the next bed had jumped on to a chair and pulled a boiling kettle over his back and legs.

The babies seemed amazingly cheerful in the circumstances. One toddler who had just had his third skin graft sat watching television, eating Smarties and blowing raspberries while other small patients ran around him laughing and mischievous.

For parents, the days were the oddest mixture of intensity and tedium. At nights we stayed in dormitories provided free by the hospital. There were moments of light relief (one mother's dismay at finding her teenage son's first chest hair had been grafted on to his forehead) and a great deal of mutual support. But the underlying mood was one of deep distress.

Mr Green, a plastic surgeon at the hospital, explained to me later that people at high stress levels often interpret judicious vagueness as indifference. "The more experienced you are in treating burns the more indefinite you become about predicting with any certainty which ones will heal, what grafts will take and so on. The indefinite is the child itself. Every skin has a different texture, different thicknesses at different places; burns occur at different depths".

The best news of all is that, provided there is no infection and provided the skin is not rubbed or irritated, the skin exhibits a quite marvellous capacity for putting itself right. Poppy's injuries are now faint reminders of the accident: two pink circles no bigger than 10 pence coins on her arms and chest.

But never again will I underestimate the speed and length of a toddler's reach. I have resolved, too, to slow down during the stress periods of the day - the hours between eight and nine in the morning and five and seven at night - when most domestic accidents happen.

THE TIMES DIARY

Maxwell's draw

Robert Maxwell's attempt to have the editor of the *Sun* punished for contempt of court was not his only unsuccessful legal action last week. In the High Court Mr Justice Falconer delivered a final judgement in the prolonged David and Goliath dispute between Maxwell's giant British Printing and Communications Corporation and Norman Lovett's one-man British Programme and Collectors Club of Hull over their rival claims to the trade mark BPCC. His verdict? A stalemate. Maxwell can register the mark, but not for printed matter, newspapers, periodicals or books. Lovett cannot register the mark at all. If this is bad news for Maxwell, it is a disaster for Lovett, who has been using the mark since the early 1970s. He turned down a £40,000 offer from Maxwell to settle before the hearing, has spent at least £15,000 fighting the case, and claims his business has been ruined. "It's taken everything I've got. I still can't believe the result," he told me yesterday. Maxwell was not available for comment. The socialist millionaire was in Warsaw persuading General Jaruzelski to agree to a Pergamon Press biography and lecturing him on how economies should be run.

Short memory

Glorious visions float before me of battalions of Tory MPs on bended knee apologizing to CND's Bruce Kent. In December Jill Knight MP alleged in Huntingdon that CND was Soviet-funded. Kent demanded she substantiate or apologize. When she refused, Labour's Roland Boyes put down a motion in the Commons repeating the demand. The issue swiftly became a point of party honour. Some 50 Labour MPs signed the motion. At least 140 Tories - including Ludlow's Eric Cockeram - signed Sir Frederic Bennett's amendment congratulating Mrs Knight. Unfortunately for Cockeram and his colleagues Ludlow CND has just unearthed a photocopy sent to it by Cockeram in 1983 of a letter to him from Foreign Office minister Richard Luce. "I am aware of no evidence that it [the USSR] has funded CND or other major movements in Britain which are opposed to the government's nuclear defence policies," it says.

Unfrankly, Jim

Ted Heath is not the only ex-prime minister writing his memoirs. Jim Callaghan is working on his - and has been, says a friend, since 1979. "I'm getting on now. I'm about two thirds of the way through. I hope to finish by next Easter," he tells me. But whereas Heath promises a no-holds-barred account, Callaghan's will be of outstanding monotony. He has most enjoyed writing about his early life; there will be no startling political revelations. "Say it's going to be dull, no scandal, and I don't think anyone will want to read it," he instructs me. I trust Collins will not ask him to promote it.

BARRY FANTONI



"And to think I cheered when Beryl's mother emigrated to Sydney"

Apron strings

Yesterday's Sunday paper revelation that President Banda of Malawi used a disguised South African Airways jet for his recent state visit to Britain may not prove the trip's only embarrassment for the 87-year-old fly-whisking autocrat. After the state visit, Banda stayed another 17 days in a private capacity. According to *Skyport*, a Heathrow newspaper, Banda's Boeing 747 clocked up £19,000 in parking fees during that time, and the Foreign Office must now decide whether to send him the bill or waive it. Neither the FO nor the British Airports Authority could comment yesterday. If the story is true, Banda should assuredly be billed: Britain already gives Malawi £13.5 million a year in foreign aid.

Party line-up

The Government really must be rattled by the opinion polls. In its 44-year history, Radio 4's *Any Questions* programme has never been able to persuade a cabinet minister to take part. Until now. "Out of the blue" the programme's producer, Carol Stone, got a call from Tory party chairman John Gummer saying there had been "a considerable shift in our thinking" and that she might like to ring the odd minister. She did. They agreed with alacrity. Michael Heseltine takes on Ken Livingstone on Friday. Shirley Williams on June 21, and in subsequent programmes Leon Brittan, Nigel Lawson and Tom King will placate their backbenchers by hammering home the Government's message.

PHS

Thatcher's state control dilemma

by Andrew Gamble

Since it was elected in 1979 the Thatcher government has been distinctive for its attitude towards the state, but there is disagreement about what that attitude is. The problem for the Government is that its own diagnosis constantly impels it towards state intervention - whether in the internal affairs of trade unions, the spending priorities of local authorities, the curricula of schools and universities, or patterns of family behaviour. At the same time it has been reluctant to create the kind of state machinery that would allow such intervention to be effective.

Many of the capitalist modernizers in the party have grown impatient about the slow pace of advance. One of the more outspoken has been Sir John Hoskyns, formerly head of the policy unit in Downing Street, now director-general of the Institute of Directors.

Hoskyns's proposals, if ever adopted, would be a major reform of British government. They point towards the creation of an executive government, capable of formulating, implementing, and monitoring a coordinated programme of policies. Only in wartime have British governments attempted to act in this manner.

Hoskyns and many other neo-liberals believe that the Government had a radical strategy but that it has been continually frustrated in its

pursuit by the inadequacy of the Civil Service and the present organization of government. Yet the changes that have so far taken place in the state machine all have precedents in previous administrations and hardly add up to a radical overhaul. Despite its misgivings about civil servants and its determination to reduce their numbers and contain their pay, the Government still relies on the traditional Civil Service to carry through its programme.

The Government has been most successful when faced with challenges to its authority and been able to win a trial of strength. It has "seen off" the Northern Irish hunger strikers, the Argentine junta, the miners, and most recently the rebel local authorities. The Government has demonstrated that intransigence and determination, allied to a correct estimation of the balance of forces and adequate preparations, can win. These victories have contributed to Mrs Thatcher's image as a strong leader. But the approach has been of little use in dealing with long-term problems such as the control of public expenditure or the refashioning of education. Here Hoskyns's critique is relevant.

To secure the permanent demise of corporatism the Thatcher government needed to transform economic policymaking and greatly reduce the size of the public sector. The first proved easier, because it meant reasserting what had always been Britain's traditional policy.

Reducing the public sector has proved much more difficult. Government strategy for the public sector has floundered both because it has proved unwilling to confront the special interests, from farmers to mortgage holders, who enjoy fiscal "privileges" and because it has to work through public institutions and agencies over which it exercises little control. It has attempted to influence these agencies through a variety of indirect means but mostly through financial penalties, often, as with local authorities or higher education, with bizarre results.

Policies to restore public order have also been limited. New powers have been given to the police and judiciary, intelligence gathering and surveillance have been extended, and the repressive potential of the state has been further increased. But the Thatcher government has been unable to secure the return of more retributive punishments or to reverse the permissive social legislation of the 1960s, while its policies on strengthening the family have been vague.

The results of Thatcherism are therefore highly contradictory. Only in relation to trade unions has the state under Thatcher moved in the direction of the kind of strong state needed to restructure society, not tied down by any liberal or democratic scruples, and even here only partially.

The result is a restructuring of the state that may result in a free but not an enterprise economy. It will be free in the sense that it is an open economy fully integrated into the world division of labour, in which unions, it is hoped, will wither away, or will be transformed by degrees into enterprise unions, in which all businesses are given more scope and public assets are privatized.

But it will also still be an economy in decline with growing disparities between its regions and between its employed and unemployed population. The strong state that is needed to keep this economy free is a state able to conduct effective surveillance and policing of the unemployed and the poor, able to confront and defeat any industrial challenge, able to contain any new upsurge of terrorism. But it is not the kind of strong state that would be needed to break out of the cycle of decline.

This article is taken from the June edition of *Marxism Today*.

Edward Mortimer on the ousting of a Khomeini predecessor

When Britain brought off a coup



Mossadegh after his fall. Right, the Rashidian brothers, who helped bring it about

Sir Eric Drake, AIOC's general manager in Abadan at the time, still feels that this agreement came at a "highly inopportune moment" and believes that the US ambassador - "very thick with Mossadegh" - was "always explaining to the Persians how much better they would be with the Americans than the British". But he also admits that the AIOC board in London "were being unduly stingy".

That was certainly the view of many members of the Truman administration. They were dismayed by the AIOC government's decision to back AIOC's intransigent opposition to nationalization. But they did cooperate with Britain in boycotting Iranian oil so that Mossadegh should not "get away with it", partly because they were afraid that Britain might take military action.

This fear was not far-fetched. Drake himself flew back to London and was allowed to address the Cabinet, where he "pleaded that we should not allow the biggest foreign asset in Britain to go without doing something about it". At the request of Herbert Morrison, Foreign Secretary, the Joint Planning Staff at the Ministry of Defence studied military options, including measures aimed at forcibly securing AIOC property from nationalization. Shinwell, the Defence Minister, was enthusiastic about military intervention, arguing that "if Persia was allowed to get away with it, Egypt and the other Middle East countries would be encouraged to think they

could try things on; the next thing might be an attempt to nationalize the Suez Canal".

That prophecy proved accurate, and in 1956, Eden took the action at Suez which Morrison and Shinwell had advocated at Abadan five years earlier. Had their advice been followed the results would no doubt have been equally disastrous. That it was not was due partly to the fact that the Truman administration exerted pressure in good time - sending Averell Harriman on a special mission to Iran and keeping both sides talking until the psychological moment for an invasion was past. It was mainly due to the good sense of AIOC itself, however, who said later: "I think if we had used force we would have raised the whole of Asia against us and a great deal of public opinion in the rest of the world too. And it would have been quite wrong morally and politically."

But the crisis dragged on. It was inherited by the Churchill government in October 1951, which rapidly came to the conclusion that the only solution was, in the words of Sir Donald Logan, Iran's desk officer in the Foreign Office at the time, "to get rid of Mossadegh as soon as possible".

This was first attempted by quasi-constitutional methods through the pro-British Iranian elder statesman Qavam Sultani, whom the Shah appointed prime minister in July 1952. That provoked mass protests, however, and Mossadegh was swiftly restored, whereupon the British

embassy and MIF began actively to prepare for a coup d'état. The leader of the coup, General Zahedi, was actually chosen for the part by the British chargé d'affaires, George Middleton (since knighted), who describes in tonight's programme the clandestine negotiations he conducted with the general while ostensibly shooting partridge on his country estate.

It was only because Mossadegh, getting wind of the affair, broke diplomatic relations with Britain in October 1952 that the final preparations had to be left in the hands of the Americans. They took over the British network of agents, foremost among whom were the Rashidian brothers, a family of wealthy merchants. Richard Cottam, a new recruit to the CIA in 1953, was astonished to find that thanks to the Rashidians articles by him which portrayed Mossadegh as a communist collaborator and a fanatic "would appear almost instantly the next day in the Iranian press".

Under Truman the CIA probably would not have been allowed to play this role. But Eisenhower and Dulles were easily persuaded by the British argument that Mossadegh remained in power would eventually lead to a communist takeover. Cottam's view "the British understood the extent of paranoia" about communism in the America of Joe McCarthy, and "consciously played on that fear in order to help persuade us to involve ourselves in the coup".

Alan Hamilton looks seaward for the key to Shackleton-style development

A Falkland fortune for the taking

Now there are 28 small farms, each owned by an islander who in most cases is a former employee of the four big ranches which have been subdivided. Economists from the Overseas Development Administration have found that output under the small farmers has increased by 15 per cent.

Land reform means an end to a farming system that was virtually feudal. Most farm employees lived in virtually tied cottages, and on retirement had to move out and take up residence in Stanley. The reform, modest though it is, means that the Falklands now has its first village, a distinct from a settlement tied to a particular farm, at Fox Bay East. A former farm manager, Richard Cockwell, owns his house and in an adjoining shed has set up the island's first woolen mill. Now the village is about to get its own power station.

But land reform has ground to a halt. The Falkland Islands Company, the largest landowner of all, is extremely reluctant to give up any more of its land, and Lord Shackleton has been hinting at the need for legislation to compel it to do so.

The longer the delay, the more difficult it will be for local farmers to purchase their own plots as land prices rise beyond their modest reach. If land prices were kept within reasonable bounds there would be a

quest of would-be owner-farmers from among the native population. As it is, however, further land reform may require a certain degree of immigration, something which poses problems.

There are ample opportunities for immigrants outside farming, particularly for tradesmen. The islands have no competent builder, bricklayer or stone mason, no baker and few plumbers or electricians. But there is not enough housing to offer such newcomers in a vicious circle in which there is nobody to build it. No one is keen to repeat the scheme which followed the fighting in which 54 prefabricated timber homes were shipped out from Britain with skilled labour to erect them, costing in the end £130,000 each.

Education is another deterrent to immigrants. The Stanley Secondary School teaches no foreign language (apart from a brief period of enforced Spanish in 1982) and pupils only to O-level. For anything more advanced pupils are despatched to the Thomas Peacock School in Rye, Sussex.

Most things can be achieved with money, however, and a potentially enormous source of revenue is lying off the Falklands shores largely unexploited. As reported in *The Times* on Friday an international flotilla of more than 200 trawlers will take upwards of £300 million worth of fish this year from the Falkland.

The British government is at last beginning to move on the question of preserving stocks but on quotas it appears to favour multilateral talks which would include Argentina, rather than a straightforward 200-mile fishing limit, which is standard practise elsewhere in the world.

Lord Shackleton and many islanders feel the Government is still afraid of provoking the Argentines into more than necessary. But as almost every islander is aware, a fishing limit is hardly as provocative as the building of a £276 million international airport. And there was no pussyfooting about that.

Anne Sofer

High strategy, low tactics

Leaks from the Labour Party continue to reach me. The following is a transcript of a recent meeting of the Bassetshire County Council Labour Group.

Councillor Terry Treachman: Well, comrades, welcome to this first meeting of the new group. I think we can congratulate ourselves on our commendable showing in the county council elections. We have certainly got the Tories on the run and can regard these elections as the first step to the return of a Labour government. (Cries of "hear, hear".) And may I say, comrades, that if I have anything to do with it it will be a socialist government too. (Cheers.) However, as you all know, we face a tricky situation now in Shire Hall. The Tories have 30 councillors, we have 16 and the so-called Alliance - if you will forgive me for using a dirty word - (laughter) have 15. Obviously we need a full discussion of tactics. Who'd like to start? Peter.

Councillor Peter Partylane: Thank you comrade chair. What I want to say to all comrades here, with all proper seriousness, is that the one thing we must avoid at all costs is any form of co-operation of any description whatsoever with the so-called Alliance, particularly so long as it contains any of those traitors who joined the Social Diseases Party. (Cries of "dirty scabs", etc.) I give my word that I will have nothing to do with any of them. (Applause.)

Councillor Wendy Wobblers: Chairman (cries of "Address the chair correctly", "sexist", etc.) Sorry chairman, I mean chair. I agree absolutely about the SDP. I mean I can't stand them. I mean I just throw up every time David Owen appears on the telly. But I've got real problems in my ward, and I think we have to think very carefully. The Tories are planning to close our nursery, and of course during the election campaign I pledged that I would do everything in my power to keep it open. The Alliance candidate did too, and as you all know I only beat her by 27 votes. If we put the Tories back in instead of co-operating with the Alliance, she can turn round and say it's my fault if the nursery closure goes ahead.

Councillor Malcolm Maverick: I agree with Wendy. We've got to face reality, comrades. In fact I've been doing just that and I've had quite a few chats with Alliance people in the last few days. (Loud cries of "collaborator".) "Go and join the Gang of Four", etc.) I've even read their manifesto. (Uproar. Cries of "lies", "rubbish", "resign".) And I've come to the conclusion we could work with them to some extent. Certainly on education and social services; in fact they've said they'd be prepared to back me as chairman of social services. (Cries of "Bribery", "Judas", etc.) Well, at least we'd be able to do something about home help for the old people after all these years. (Drowned out)

by cries of "call yourself a socialist", "come back Ramsay MacDonald".

Councillor Walter Walworth: Comrades, I am astonished that any member of this group could be so naive as to think that socialism can be achieved by compromise ("hear, hear.") or to have any trust at all in anything the Liberal Party or the SDP say. We must beware of setting any precedents for co-operation. I can sympathize with how Comrade Wobblers feels, but she has to realize that short-term parochial considerations must not blind us to the dangers of the electorate seeing any positive advantage at all in a three-party system. If we get a three-party system in this country it will be death to radical socialist advance. We will be condemned to a future of soggy reformist consensus. No, comrades: we have got to make sure that, right from the start, the Alliance are branded as the Tories they are. People have got to realize they'll get nowhere voting for them. (Prolonged applause.) So, I move, chair, that we refuse any form of co-operation with the Alliance, and abstain in all votes for chairmanships at the annual meeting of the Council.

Council Maverick: But that means that... Councillor Treachman: Is that seconded? Thank you Peter. Those in favour Against? Carried by 13 votes to 3. Any other business? Councillor Wobblers: But what are we going to do about the seats on the Association of County Councils? I mean, I respect the decision the group has just made, but we've got to stop the Tories taking all the seats. Think of the undertakings we gave the teachers...

Councillor Treachman: Wendy, I am glad you have raised the issue of the ACC seats, and now we've taken the decision on the main issue. I want to tell the group of a telephone communication I had from the so-called leader of the so-called Alliance group. He has told me that his group favours what he calls a proportional share-out of the seats. (Titters.) And that he would support any two nominations of ours, provided we would do the same for them. I told him that my strong recommendation to this group would be to agree to this arrangement. (Cries of "What?", "Never", "You must be joking!") Now calm down, comrades and hear me out. I'm recommending, right? But I know there are strong feelings, and it might be regarded as a matter of conscience for some comrades. And we've never applied a three-time whip in matters of conscience, have we? And we all know the arithmetic. Enough said? Right. (Chuckles, guffaws, mutters of "he's a shrewd old bird, is Terry.") Fortunately, comrades, we're just in time for a pint at the Setting Sun. Meeting adjourned.

The author is SDP member of the GLC/ILEA for St Pancras North.

Julie Davidson

Who will be best of the fests?

Glasgow Browning, rather too late (it finished last weekend) through a modest, unpretentious programme of Mayfest, Glasgow's community-based, socialist-inspired, local authority-endowed, trade union-supported, anti-elitist answer to the Edinburgh Festival, I came across this enthusiastic note for a production of *Measure for Measure*.

At last Glasgow's chance to see Kist Theatre Company's outstandingly intelligent, original and witty production of Shakespeare's "problem" play which was such a resounding success at last year's Edinburgh Festival Fringe...

Wait a minute. Isn't this admission of a "resounding success" from Edinburgh also an admission of defeat? Is adventurous Glasgow content to follow where cautious Edinburgh has already been? The Glasgow festival's name may be unfortunate, like some seasonal species of garden pest (which is indeed how many perceive its infestations of street theatre), but when Mayfest first invaded the Clyde-side consciousness three years ago its spirit was independent.

It did not trawl for talent among last year's productions at the Edinburgh Fringe. It found its own, often abroad. This year, too, it has not neglected its internationalism. There have been the Joel Hall Dancers, described as "Chicago's national dance company". And there has been the Folk Dance Ensemble of the Marie Curie Sklodowska University in Lublin, Poland.

But there are also more names familiar from Edinburgh's Fringe on the programme and if the trend continues then even Scotland's loyal theatre critics (who, alone among those who constitute the critical Establishment, have much enthusiasm for Mayfest) indicate that

Music and the visual arts are not strongly represented, which induces a certain bafflement in their partisan. Not even the indigenous originality and passionate community relevance of the exhibition at the People's Palace Museum on Glasgow Green ("Tennent's Lager Centenary Exhibition: a look at the production and marketing of Scotland's oldest lager") was enough to excite one of Scotland's leading art critics, who dismissed Mayfest as "a lot of fuss about very little".

But that is the view of the pursuer of excellence. As a dedicated amateur consumer of the arts (that is, someone who hardly ever gets anything but enjoys the entertainment value to be found in cultural politics) I would be sad if Glasgow's festival lost its way at a time when

the city itself is recovering its place in the cultural sun.

Gone are the days when Glaswegians themselves invited the charge of philistinism by dismissing everyone from Edinburgh - and most particularly those who affected to enjoy the arts - as "pseudos and posers". The second insult was very much "poser" and not "pseudos", which in itself is the kind of word a posour would use, and the phrase rolled off the tongue as one word, "pseudosposers", much as Mrs Thatcher has made one indivisible word of "freedomandjustice".

Today there is the Citizens Theatre, a byword for innovation and dramatic excitement, which actually manages regularly to pack houses for what the director, Giles Havergal, calls "really very unconventional" and quite difficult theatre. Today there is an opera house, the converted Theatre Royal, home base for Scottish Opera, while Edinburgh has a Sheraton Hotel in the hole which its opera house was once intended to fill.

And today Glasgow's city fathers can boast that last year more people visited their splendid new Burrell Museum (public password: "the building is better than the collection") than visited Edinburgh Castle.

Today's Edinburgh's city fathers, a Labour administration pledged to smash the elitism of the Edinburgh Festival and "bring it closer to the people", are looking wistfully to Glasgow for lessons in democratizing the arts. But their imagination falters, distracted, perhaps, by the need to counter the latest plot to deprive them of their majority membership of the influential Festival Council (whose vice-chairman is claiming that as the event receives less than one third of its income from Edinburgh District Council it has no right to dominate the Festival Council).

What, then, have the capital's civic leaders done, to lower the brows of this year's festival? Cynics claim to have observed their influence on the programme, which includes the curious pairing of two popular but elderly performers, Yehudi Menuhin and Rudolf Nureyev, to play and dance Bach in the Usher Hall. But the district council itself so far claims only one achievement: a soccer match between Bayern Munich and an Edinburgh select side on August 13.

This, I feel, is a stroke of genius with far-reaching international consequences. It means there will now be year when football isn't being played somewhere in Europe.

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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

COLD WARSAW SPRING

The fact that the Polish government is going ahead with the trial of three well-known opposition leaders in Gdansk, despite international protests, is only one of several bad signs which have recently emerged from Poland. Solidarity leaders and advisers are being liberally persecuted once again. After last year's summer amnesty there was only a handful of political prisoners left in Poland's jails and hopeful observers looked forward to new attempts at reconciliation between the regime and the people; this spring there are estimated to be at least 150 political prisoners. What is more, the Jaruzelski government is systematically changing the country's laws so as to make any form of independent human activity potentially a punishable offence. Even on paper, the law in General Jaruzelski's Poland is increasingly departing from the basic standards of European jurisprudence, despite the courageous efforts of many Polish lawyers to defend those standards. In this new dispensation, law is the continuation of political policing by other means.

It may safely be predicted that these new legal provisions, and the summary judicial procedures which accompany them (courts martial in civil garb) will in practice be used mainly against the whole spectrum of independent and opposition activities still being pursued in the spirit of Solidarity. The threat is by no means confined to those activi-

ties which the Western television viewer immediately associates with Solidarity: a strike, a street demonstration on May 1 or a speech by Lech Walesa.

Proposed amendments to the Higher Education Act are a good example. If these become law, the universities will lose even the limited autonomy and internal freedom they currently enjoy. Everyone from students to professors will be liable to summary dismissal by the Minister, on political grounds. Poland's academic and intellectual community has been almost unanimous in condemning these proposals. Even the government's own favoured consultative body, the Patriotic Movement for National Salvation (PRON), has declared itself against them. Yet the government now seems determined to steamroller the repressive amendments through Parliament before the summer is out.

The history of the last few months in Poland may therefore be seen as one of police successes and political failures. These are political failures defined in Soviet terms, because the repressive "normalization" is not being conducted mainly through the Communist Party, as in Moscow's view it always should be. Indeed, the fact that the Jaruzelski government has to work through the courts is further evidence of the collapse of the Party. Where Party control is effective and all-pervasive, as in the Soviet Union, the authori-

ties do not need to work through the law.

But these have been political failures also in the terms which the Jaruzelski government seems to have set itself. For it would be wrong to suggest that the last year has seen the implementation of a single, consistent policy. Consistent is what the Jaruzelski government is not. Thus last summer's amnesty seemed to offer the chance of a political opening to the population - but the government then proved unable to seize the chance it had created for itself, at least during the month until the murder of Father Popieluszko cast all else in shadow. By taking the unprecedented step of putting secret police murderers on public trial the government seemed to extend another open hand to the people, but by the accompanying barrage of anti-church propaganda - which still continues - it destroyed any credibility it might otherwise have won.

On present form there is less chance than ever of its winning the active cooperation of the working class or the intelligentsia in the essential task of economic reconstruction. On the terms it is currently offering its citizens the most it can hope for is to induce hopelessness: exhaustion, apathy, resignation in the face of a formidable police state. But even this must be a faint hope. There are few people more difficult to reduce to hopelessness than the Poles.

THE LABEL'S MESSAGE

Absurd decisions by European Community institutions make wonderful ammunition for those who wish to sabotage membership. Those who favour co-operation to break down trading barriers should expose and oppose such decisions rather than look the other way or act as embarrassed apologists.

The recent ruling by the European Court of Justice that the British Government's statutory order on origin marking contravened article 30 of the Treaty of Rome provides a particularly offensive case in point. The order provided that shops could only sell clothing, textile goods, home electrical appliances, footwear and cutlery labelled with the name of the country in which the goods were manufactured or produced. Article 30 of the EEC Treaty simply states that "quantitative restrictions on imports and all measures having equivalent effect shall be prohibited between member states". It does not obviously have anything to do with providing the consumer with information about the origin of goods.

To make the case fit the principle, the court argued that, since the burden of origin marking would eventually fall upon the producer this would "have the effect of increasing the production costs of imported goods" and making it more difficult to sell them on the British market. Yet different rules for labelling goods for different national markets are taken for granted by exporters round the world (and within the

EEC). The extra cost of origin labelling is nugatory.

The court's true argument was that origin labelling, by allowing consumers to distinguish between domestic and imported goods "enabled them to assert any prejudices which they might have against foreign products". The judges clearly took a dim view of the chauvinistic tendencies of the average British consumer, rejecting a British Government offer to accept the designation "made in the European Community". In practice, British prejudices are as likely to favour a German-made car or an Italian suit over a British one, or even a Japanese brand television set made in Japan over the same brand made domestically - as our manufacturers know to their cost.

In any case, the individual as contrasted with the treaty-bound nation, has every right to exercise whatever prejudice he likes. It is for the individual to decide whether a product made in France, Russia or South Africa will give him more or less satisfaction than a similar product made elsewhere, and not for the European Court of Justice. Prejudice is as much part of consumer choice as value for money, quite apart from the rational information that origin labelling may give. British manufacturers who have eschewed calls for protection are likewise right to be angry that, when a British industry is threatened by imports, the consumer cannot even be given the information to back home production and employment if he so

wishes. Information is the friend of the consumer and the tool of choice. To suppress information is to misunderstand how free trade and consumer choice work through the market mechanism to give us what we, rather than bureaucrats, want.

There is no appeal from the European Court of Justice, even though, in this case, the court was delivering an initial judgement. To defy the court on such a mundane matter would be self-defeating. The Department of Trade and Industry is therefore merely considering how it can best comply. That in itself brings complications. The judgement could not rule out a new statutory order applying only to goods from outside the Community. But such discrimination would at least be against the spirit of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs.

The Government could make a more vigorous response short of seeking to amend the Treaty of Rome. We could challenge the court to rule on an alternative order that included the European Community as a whole as a source of origin, or try to persuade the European Commission to promote secondary legislation under the treaty that would supersede the judgement. The issue at hand may seem too trivial to bother. But the European Court of Justice has become part of our constitution. Where there is no appeal from a court, it is important to establish some ready legislative mechanism, such as we have within Britain, for correcting judgements that run so patently against common sense.

ARGENTINA AND AUSTERITY

A month ago President Alfonsín announced to the crowd in the Plaza de Mayo that real sacrifices were inevitable and would be imposed. A section of the crowd left the square in protest. Earlier this month the trial began of the members of the successive military juntas that governed Argentina between 1976 and 1982. A major bank went into liquidation. Inflation reached 1 per cent a day, a rate exceeded only by Bolivia. The General Confederation of Labour called a general strike last Thursday, and filled the Plaza de Mayo with another substantial gathering.

If President Alfonsín and Mrs Thatcher could converse, they would find at least one common theme in how slowly under democracies the old gives birth to the new. There were certainly new elements apparent in last month's Argentine politics. The President's rhetoric changed, both in his April 26 speech and in his subsequent May Presidential Message. There was a new emphasis on Argentine responsibility for the errors of the past, on the evils of rampant speculation, the dubious origins of recent fleeting prosperity. Hyper-inflation, an economy one-quarter black, tax-system less progressive than that of Haiti - these abuses could not continue. The President called for a return to values of hard work, for the restructuring of proper economic relationships,

for de-regulation and modernization. His remarks on education could well have been drafted by Sir Keith Joseph. Mr Alfonsín is frequently courageous, and was not afraid to announce some of these new truths from a balcony better known as a source of old illusion.

However, government through popular rally is itself a sign of the persistence of an older Argentina, and opposition through walk-out and counter-rally is also part of that older Argentina. A special breed of observer calibrates the failure or success of these turn-outs, and last month's score on that measurement is said to show honours about even. However, that most likely confirms that one should now look for the real balance of political forces elsewhere. Argentine politics have changed since a decade ago the Montoneros marched out of that same Plaza. The pace of change may be depressingly slow - where is it fast? - but it is better than repetition.

President Alfonsín's announced change of direction is made in a new political context. First, it is impossible in the present juncture for his political opponents to appeal to military intervention. Conservative elements no longer see the armed forces as reliable, and in Argentina it has always taken more than a few civilians to produce

military rule. Trades union leaders, however practised they are at dealing with generals in power, cannot now risk being seen to favour any such outcome: the notoriety of Peronist union-military collaboration had quite a lot to do with the Radical Party's 1983 electoral success. Secondly, President Alfonsín dominates the Radical Party, and the Radicals still dominate the political scene. His personal popularity is still high. The Peronist opposition has divided in a fashion that gives little promise of any eventual unification. Peron never liked the idea of a well-structured party, and it looks too late now for his followers to begin to build one.

The third new element is the President himself. He is not an economist, and though that in itself was no disadvantage, he took office with a package of economic ideas that were neither appropriate for explaining the origins of Argentina's difficulties nor for getting her out of them. But he has shown an ability to learn, and to admit to learning. He has now opened wide the real economic debate. His increased realism will be put to the political test of Congressional elections in November. Argentines with long memories recall that in 1952 Peron managed to sustain his popularity in spite of economic austerity. Mr Alfonsín faces a graver crisis, but he better deserves to succeed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Skills and virtues at the universities

From Mr Max Taylor

Sir, Your leader on universities today (May 22) is welcome, not least when it talks about "transferable intellectual and personal skills". The skills universities teach are those of the laboratory and the library; as far as many personal skills are concerned, they merely freeze growth for three years. It is because many young graduates are so inept (in everything except technical skill) that good old traditional British industries have made such poor use of their brains and remain the anti-intellectual places they are.

The ingredients universities miss are, first, what we might call the practical virtues - enterprise, persistence, courage, sympathy, justice (these can't be taught, but can certainly be developed in the right environment); and secondly, the generalised skills of getting things done - setting worthwhile objectives, leading, planning, persuading, co-operating, listening.

These can be taught - both the armed services and management training do so, for their own specialised purposes. The Youth Training Scheme is also meant to do some of this - for those whom conventional education has largely failed.

Perhaps the worst result of our system is that undergraduates have so little idea of what they are good at. Learning and doing use quite different mental muscles - and most undergraduates have never stretched themselves in any active role, or been taught to review their experience.

Perhaps we could throw away

Plato (whose influence in education has been disastrous) and try a bit of Aristotle instead. If universities could widen their vision and produce something more like a complete man or woman, their contribution would be far more valuable.

Yours faithfully,
MAX TAYLOR,
44 Northumberland Place, W.2,
May 22.

From the Chief Executive of The British Library

Sir, I welcome the recognition in the Green Paper on *The Development of Higher Education into the 1990s* (paragraph 5.15) of the importance of adequately resourced library facilities in helping to sustain research in the humanities.

Given the overall emphasis of the Green Paper I am surprised no corresponding reference is made to the need for research in science and technology. Of an average 12,000 requests for documents answered every working day by the lending division of the British Library three quarters are for scientific and technological papers. Nor does this include the extensive use made of our scientific reference library and information services supporting innovation, business and research.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH COOPER, Chief Executive,
The British Library,
2 Sheraton Street, W.1,
May 23.

No orchids for our heritage

From Mr A.F. Porter

Sir, The sad tale of the attempted destruction of a botanically important orchid-meadow in Essex, reported both in your pages (May 16 and 17) and on television, raises many issues both of principle and practice.

I am the discoverer of *Epipactis youngiana*, the first orchid species new to science to be discovered in these islands. I believe, for very many years, I have occasionally helped to secure the protection of botanically important sites from destruction and for many years I was involved in both urban and rural land development. My observations may therefore be regarded as acceptably even-handed.

The Essex case - reportedly involving the spraying with weed killer of a meadow with some 15,000 specimens of *Orchis morio*, which is no longer common anywhere - serves to remind us of several factors which, if "heritage" is to mean anything at all, must not be overlooked.

First, sites which have an established scientific importance have achieved that status in a national, or even international, context and are never merely locally important.

Secondly, if sites which merit recognition are to achieve the protection they deserve the processes necessary to achieve it must be honoured locally by all public bodies which might in any way be involved with the sites for similar nationally justified reasons.

Thirdly, if the deliberate destruction of plant life removes the scientific importance of a specific site, planning authorities ought, in the interests of the rest of us, to refuse planning permission for any development for which planning permission would have been refused had that deliberate destruction not taken place.

It is ironic, if the reported facts are true, that in Essex conservationists, whose interests are arguably to be equated in this case with the national interest, were deterred by eight policemen from impeding the nocturnal weed-spraying activities of an intending developer, whose interests are arguably limited to himself and the purchasers of the seven houses he hopes to build on the site.

It is equally ironic that this bizarre episode should have occurred at a time when so much attention is being given to the protection of the countryside and any noticeable act of destruction attracts both acute attention and anger.

Yours faithfully,
A.F. PORTER,
16 Hawthorn Way,
Darras Hall,
Ponteland,
Newcastle upon Tyne,
May 19.

Levin's loyalties

From Mr Ian Grist, MP for Cardiff Central (Conservative)

Sir, When Bernard Levin wrote May 21 that "he certainly voted for them (i.e. Labour) in 1955 and 1959" memory stirred.

Sure enough in the issue of *The Spectator* of October 2, 1959, we find him telling us "That is why I hope that the Liberals poll well and why I indeed, living in a non marginal seat, shall vote for them". This was no flash in the pan for he told us the same in the issue of September 4.

If he didn't in the end carry out his intention perhaps we could be told why. Was the constituency marginal after all - or just his memory?

Yours faithfully,
IAN GRIST,
House of Commons,
May 22.

Cardiff's concert hall

From Mr Alan Vaughan Williams

Sir, In his article (May 9) on the Dallas Symphony Orchestra Paul Griffiths praised the city's enterprise in building a concert hall. Previewing the orchestra's visit to Britain he mentioned Nottingham, the Festival Hall and the Barbican.

Curiously, he forgot to include Cardiff, thus repeating an omission made in your pages when Gilbert Kaplan visited Britain and to which you alluded in the context of that time (December 15).

Cardiff does not have the burgeoning financial resources of Dallas, so it is perhaps to its greater credit that it also has built a new concert hall in these difficult times. Its enterprise in thus enabling us to welcome Kaplan and now the Dallas Symphony Orchestra deserves recognition, or at least a mention.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN VAUGHAN WILLIAMS,
92 Ninian Road,
Roath Park,
Cardiff,
May 11.

ON THIS DAY

MAY 27, 1866

On December 13, 1867, there was an attempt at Clerkenwell house of detention by Fenians to release one of their number by blowing a hole in the prison wall. Twelve innocent people were killed in the explosion and 120 injured. A number of suspects were rounded up and all but one escaped. The exception was Michael Barrett who, on the evidence of a prisoner who turned Queen's evidence, was arrested, tried, found guilty, and executed on May 26 - the last person to suffer that penalty in public in England. At the trial Barrett pleaded an alibi, and it has been said he was speaking the truth and was not guilty of the crime.

THE EXECUTION OF BARRETT

Yesterday morning, in the presence of a vast concourse of spectators, Michael Barrett, the author of the Clerkenwell Explosion, was hanged in front of Newgate. In its circumstances there was very little to distinguish this from ordinary executions. The crowd was gathered under the usual conditions, still from the peculiar atrocity of the crime for which Barrett suffered, and from the fact of its being probably the last public execution in England, it deserves more than usual notice. Probably in the history of criminal trials there is none which affords such proof of patient investigation, of long anxious, and deliberate searching after truth. The defence of the alibi is, of course, the best or the worst in the world. . . . This was the defence of Barrett, and it failed most signally. . . . The crowd was more than usually orderly, but was not a crowd in which one would like to trust. It is said that one sees on the road to the Derby such animals as are never seen elsewhere; so on an execution morning one sees faces that are never seen elsewhere. Now and then there was a great laugh, some faint, some loud, some hysterical, some even some faces that were never seen elsewhere. . . . The crowd remained the same, and there was laughter at the preacher or silence when an open robbler was going on. None could look on the scene, without all its exceptional qualities, without a thankful feeling that this was to be the last public execution in England. . . . Now and then there was a great laugh as a girl tittered, and was passed out hand over hand above the heads of the mob, and then there came a scuffle and a fight, and then a hymn, and then a sermon, and then a comic song, and so on from hour to hour, the crowd of onlookers, and the silence, and the sun shone out with such a glare as to extinguish the very feeble light which showed itself faintly through the glass roof above where the culprit lay. It was a wild, rough crowd, and so numerous that it was not to be wondered at that a murderer's death as that which thronged to see Muller or the pirates die. In one way they showed their feeling by loudly hooting a magnificently-attired woman, who, accompanied by two gentlemen, swept down the avenue, then open by the police, to occupy a stand in a window afterwards right in front of the gallows. This temporary exhibition of feeling was, however, soon allayed by coppers being thrown from the window for the roughs to scramble for. It is not right, perhaps, that a murderer's death should be surrounded by all the pious and tender accessories which accompany the departure of a good man to a better world, but most assuredly the sight of public executions to those who have to witness them is as disgusting as it must be degrading even to all the hordes of thieves and prostitutes it draws together. Yesterday the assembly was of its kind an orderly one, yet it was such as we feel grateful to see under the new law never be drawn together again in England. . . .

With the first sound of the bells came a great hungry roar from the crowd outside, and a loud, continued shout or cry, which, till the dense, barbed-wire fence stood white and ghastly-looking in the morning sun, and the pressure on the barriers increased so that the girls and women in the front began to scream and struggle to get free. Almost as a scene as this, and before such a dense crowd of white faces, Barrett was executed. His clergyman came first. Barrett mounted the steps with the most perfect composure. This may seem a stereotyped phrase, but it really means more than is generally imagined. To ascend a ladder with one's arms and hands closely pinioned would be at all times difficult but to climb a ladder to go to certain death, with the nerves of the boldest, Barrett walked up coolly and boldly. His face was as white as marble, but still he bore himself with firmness, and his demeanour was one of calm. He was instantly accompanied by four high constables, and he remained for some seconds at the last moment approached the gallows divided down to a dead silence. To neither cheers nor hisses did the culprit make the slightest recognition. He seemed only attentive to what the priest was saying to him, and to be engaged in fervent prayer. The hangman instantly put the cap over his face and the rope round his neck. Then Barrett turning spoke through his cap and asked for the rope to be altered, which the hangman did. In another moment Barrett was a dead man. After the bolt was drawn and the door fell with the loud boom which always echoes from it, Barrett never moved. He died without a struggle. . . .

Janus effect

From the Bishop of Warwick

Sir, Philip Howard is in action again (May 15). This time hunting for auto-antonyms. How can he therefore have overlooked that contemporary quarry, action? It can mean what we think it means, or in its industrial sense, the opposite.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH WARWICK,
Warwick House,
9 Armorial Road,
Coventry, West Midlands.

From Mr W. J. Nesbitt

Sir, May I suggest two more Janus words: "buckle" means "collapse" or "fasten firmly"; "with" means "beside" or "against" ("He fought with his brother").

Yours faithfully,
W. J. NESBITT,
Roselands,
Ambleside, Cumbria.

Medical charges

From Mr R. L. S. Coulson

Sir, During the past 12 months I have paid privately to see a number of medical specialists in the Midlands. The charges have varied between £1 and £1.50 per minute.

On one occasion when sending the payment, I requested clarification of two simple points connected with the verbal diagnosis. I was told that answering these two questions would cost me a further £1.50 per minute "plus overheads". One of the specialists admitted that clients who were insured were charged more than those paying out of their own pocket.

It is regrettable that the greatest threat to the continuance of private medicine may come not from a future Labour government but from those within the medical profession who are now extracting so many golden eggs from a quiescent goose.

Yours sincerely,
R. L. S. COULSON,
The Paddock,
Brampton Ash,
Market Harborough,
Leicestershire,
May 15.

Malaysian touchdown

From Lieutenant-Commander M. Ogden, RN (ret'd)

Sir, The fourth paragraph of Mr Stephen Taylor's report from Singapore (May 7) contains an historical inaccuracy. It stated that "In the build-up to Starfish, offensive aircraft of the Singapore Air Force landed on Malaysian soil last month for the first time since the island split from the federation amid bitter recrimination in 1965".

In fact, the first time that SAF aircraft landed in Malaysia since the split occurred on January 15, 1970, when I led a section (two aircraft) of BAC 167 Strikemasters from Tengah to the RMAF base at Kuala Lumpur. Furthermore, only four days later I led another section of Strikemasters from Tengah to the RMAF station at Kuantan. At that time I held the appointment of Chief Flying Instructor to the SAF, then in its infancy.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL OGDEN,
118 London Road,
Sunningdale,
Near Ascot,
Berkshire.

Fate of County Hall

From Lord Molson

Sir, There are suggestions that after the abolition of the Greater London Council the Government will, in the course of realising the council's assets, sell the County Hall. This is a matter which cannot usefully be raised in the prolonged and detailed parliamentary proceedings on the Local Government Bill.

Surely County Hall is deserving of a better fate. It may not be a beautiful building nor even to the taste of everybody. It is, however, a handsome and impressive building and well proportioned. More important, it occupies a dignified place on the Thames and almost opposite the Houses of Parliament. Its use should take into account all those features.

Why should it not be taken over by the same department, which is suspected of intending to sell it in the market, for the use of some Government department or body? The accommodation of several of them is unsatisfactory and in many of them inadequate. This at present means the leasing of other buildings or parts of them.

To my knowledge, as a former Minister of Works, millions of pounds would have been saved if we had owned freehold sites instead of leasing accommodation for 21 years. How much better to retain County Hall - no doubt renamed - for a department of state.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant.
MOLESON,
House of Lords,
May 22.

No rare visitor

From Dr David Ames

Sir, I suspect that Sir George Solti, British subject and resident, about to broadcast in a London podium for the thirteenth time within six months, might resent being described as a "rare visitor to the capital" (caption, May 4). If so frequently sighted a conductor as Sir George is to be categorized as a "rare avis", does that make Herbert von Karajan (one appearance in 12 months) an endangered species?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID AMES,
76C Fairhazel Gardens, NW6,
May 4.

Soviet treaty violations

From Air Chief Marshal Sir Theodore McEvoy

Sir, In your leader "Thinking long" (May 14) you make timely reference to Soviet duplicity. Western reticence about such things has given the Soviet Union free scope to spread the propaganda that has led many, not only on "the left", to lump America and Russia together as equally malign.

I have a list of 30 treaties violated by the Soviets between 1939 and 1945. Since then there have been many more violations (such as, for instance, Helsinki agreements) but the Foreign Office decline to publish or even mention them.

We ought to know what the Soviet record is in these matters so that we can judge how much to rely on their word. It would therefore be valuable for all Soviet treaty violations to be made public.

To avoid bias, the list should be accompanied by a list of treaties, if any, violated by the West over the same period. If the Foreign Office will not oblige, perhaps it can be left to investigative journalism.

Yours faithfully,
THEO MCEVOY,
75a Boundstone Road,
Rowledge,
Farnham, Surrey,
May 14.

Of human bondage

From Miss Julia Bueno

Sir, Mr Hall's dilemma (May 21) is easily resolved. For the past two or three years my father has collected Post Office rubber bands which I have made into a rubber ball, the circumference of which is 25.5cm; it weighs 8.5lb.

Yours faithfully,
J. BUENO,
7 Pitt Street, W8,
May 21.

No genius for jobs

From Mr Leon A. Pieters

Sir, Mr Mitchell's letter (May 18) on the failure of the information technology industry is much nearer to assessing the present UK status than your leader (May 15). Neither, however, gets near to the real problem why the UK lags behind in industrial terms and the inability to convert research into products to be exploited.

A major difference between our competitors and the UK is the background of the senior management, which is 85 to 95 per cent technological in Japan and the USA among others, while being less than 15 per cent in the UK.

I personally fear that little will change, and that the attempts at industrial rejuvenation by central government will fall on stony ground as long as the self-perpetuating biased management structure remains in control of industrial policy.

This pessimism is reinforced by the perception that society at large, predominantly accounting/law/classics background management, whose perception of the capabilities of new technology is often distinctly myopic. Similar observations apply to the majority of financial institutions, and thus we find that all the leading and growing high-technology companies are bought by intelligent overseas groups such as Olivetti, General Dynamics, GE (USA) etc.

Yours faithfully,
LEON A. PIETERS,
Strathroy,
Station Road,
Collingham,
Newcastle,
Nottinghamshire,
May 20.

aided and abetted by the education system, denigrates "engineering" as a non-workwhile, profession, and prefers non-technical subjects as being more respectable.

My qualifications for making the above comments are only that I have founded myself a company operating successfully in the high-technology end of the electronics industry, and was educated in an environment which regarded engineering as a very respectable occupation.

Yours faithfully,
LEON A. PIETERS,
Strathroy,
Station Road,
Collingham,
Newcastle,
Nottinghamshire,
May 20.

CRICKET: GOOCH'S DAY YIELDS GOOD AND BAD

A homecoming for Gooch and Willey in England team

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

To strengthen the side that played in last winter's one-day international, the England selectors have taken immediate advantage of the ending of the TCCB's South African ban by bringing in Gooch and Willey for the three Test matches in England (Old Trafford, Saturday (Edgbaston) and Lord's (a week today). Both, available again after hibernation, is also back in the side.

The all-rounders in India and Australia earlier this year were Cowdrey, Ellison and Marks. Now they are Botham and Willey. Botham's presence gives the side an instantly more formidable look. Willey's comeback is more surprising. He has lost his England place by the time he went to South Africa in 1982 and he is 35-years-old.

Yet his move from Northamptonshire to Leicestershire in the close season of 1983-84 seems to have given him a new lease of life. He made six hundreds for his new county last year, besides taking 45 wickets with his off-breaks. With Gower to make a case for him at Friday's meeting, he got the vote ahead of Emburey, basically for being the better batsman.

The chances are that Edmonds and Willey will both play, anyway on Thursday, at the expense of one of the faster bowlers, either Cowans or Foster. Edmonds is rated as England's number one spinner at the moment, after doing his stuff during the winter. The loss of his full run-up, and the rhythm that went with it, has, I think, changed him as a bowler. The concentration is now on accuracy, it being difficult to find the changes from what at times is virtually a standing start. Underwood, on the other hand, is more prepared to throw the ball up than he was, partly because of the present overcast regulations which deprive him of drying pitches to exploit.

By including three opening

batmen, the selectors were spared from having to leave out Fowler or Robinson, who averaged 54 and 63 respectively in the Test matches in India. Robinson was not, in fact, a regular member of the one-day side there and he may not play now, but Gower is keen to preserve the unity which had so much to do with making the tour of India a success. Hence Robinson, ahead of Barnes, Benson, Andy Lloyd or Perkins, Randall's current form, if maintained, will also keep them in possession on their merits.

In the last three years the sternest trial for the England team would have been a challenge from the South African "outcasts". At the moment the under-30's against the over 30's would make a match with an edge to it. The older players are coming into their own again, thus raising the average age of the side. Athey, Terry, Lloyd and Pringle may have turned back by being prematurely blooded.

Besides Cowdrey, Ellison and Marks, the players now missing from those who were in India are Pocock, Moxon, French and Agnew. Downman must have been returned unopposed, as it were, though as a one-day player would have been worth a mention.

The Test team, which it is chosen is unlikely to be much different than that announced yesterday. What would present Peter May and his committee with a dilemma is if, by then, Gooch has had a poor one-day series. For the time being he, Botham and Willey, by their return, have turned England, at any rate on paper, into a major batting force.

ENGLAND: D. Gower (Leicestershire), capt. P. J. W. Allott (Lancashire), J. H. Botham (Somerset), M. G. Cowans (Gloucestershire), P. J. Edmonds (Middlesex), N. Foster (Essex), G. Fowler (Lancashire), M. W. Gatting (Middlesex), G. A. Gooch (Essex), A. J. Lamb (Northamptonshire), R. T. Robinson (Nottinghamshire), P. Willey (Leicestershire).

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No celebration: Gooch goes cheaply after hearing of his England recall. (Photograph Chris Cole.)

Fairbrother comes up Roses

By Peter Ball

OLD TRAFFORD, Yorkshire, with 82 second innings wickets in hand, are 48 runs behind Lancashire.

A splendid career best of 128 by Neil Fairbrother dominated the second day of the 21st Roses match during the week at Old Trafford. Fairbrother led his side to a victory over Lancashire by 142 runs, after a day of rain.

At 13 for two overnight, Lancashire were in some difficulty and they quickly lost another wicket when O'Shaughnessy fended a short ball to the keeper. Fairbrother, who had been batting for over four hours, shared stands of 142 with Folley and 71 with Abrahams.

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A Gray day with little light relief

By Marcus Williams

THE OVAL: No result. Surrey 3pts, Essex 2.

A thunderstorm of true Bank holiday weather proportions soaked The Oval and a big crowd yesterday and caused the John Player League match to be abandoned after less than an hour's play. Interest focused on Gooch, but hopes that he might celebrate his recall by England were short-lived.

Gooch, who had previously not passed 50 in eight innings, hinted at a return to form with 50 after the rain. He had been batting for over four hours, shared stands of 142 with Folley and 71 with Abrahams.

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Sunny spell merely tantalizes visitors

By Richard Streeton

For the first time in their present England tour the Australians yesterday met sunshine strong enough to tone up their complacency. It beat down for nearly five hours but ironically there was still no play in their four-day match with Derbyshire. An overnight thunderstorm of near tropical intensity left the field soaked and water also penetrated under the cover.

All morning there was a wait for the ground to dry; mid-afternoon it rained again and all hope of play was abandoned. While Derbyshire start the loss of potentially their largest gate of the summer, it did not stop them making an agreeable public relations gesture. They announced that those who had already booked could use them today, tomorrow or at next weekend's championship match.

With the one-day international looming this week the Australians had their own regrets for missing the chance of match play. Allan Border's fourth consecutive hundred was the highlight of Saturday when the 27th for five after play began two hours late. On C.G. Macartney for the 1921 Australians, among all touring batsmen to four hundreds in a row.

Nobody is more conscious than Border that he could be in danger of using up a remarkable run of form before the representative matches start. He almost deliberately stood down from this game but he put it: "When the fruit's on the vine you continue to pick it."

Border made a forceful 100 out of 145 in 135 overs for the third time with Wellham before he got himself out. Three times now he has given away his wicket: Underwood who bowled him for 11, the MCC match the only bowler to have dismissed him genuinely.

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TENNIS: CZECHOSLOVAKIA TAKE LEAD OVER UNITED STATES

Lendl has another final win over McEnroe

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Düsseldorf

Ivan Lendl, who came back from nowhere to beat John McEnroe in last year's French final, did it again — in similar playing conditions — when Czechoslovakia met the United States in the final of the third set of the French Open yesterday. McEnroe had a match point in the second set but was beaten 6-7, 7-6, 6-3 in three hours and a half. They have been seeded to go through to the whole thing again in a fortnight.

The team championship of the Association of Tennis Professionals is a delightful introduction to — and acceptance of — the French Open. The programme could hardly have been more inviting but the heat was awful. The early temperature on court was 45 deg C (113 Fahrenheit).

The sponsors, Ambre Solaire, made Lendl's comeback even better. Lendl's return to the top of the tennis world was a triumph. He had been out of the top 10 for over a year.

As he did in Paris a year ago, McEnroe looked the better player for a limited period. But in the second set Lendl had 10 break points, McEnroe only one. So McEnroe needed a lot of luck, as well as skill and tenacity, to reach match point after 11 points of the break. He tried to counter a drop with a gentle, sharply-angled shot, but missed the target. Every game went with service until McEnroe was serving at 2-2 and deuce in the third set. But he was tiring and was

to score only eight more points compared with Lendl's 16. For half the match we admired McEnroe's anticipation and reactions, his perfectly timed variations of pace, and his delectable touch on volleys, his acutely angled drops. Lendl was less flexible, but more powerfully and consistently. His cross-court backhands often left McEnroe stunned. Lendl's low volleys are unimpressive. No wonder, this was the first of seven weeks in which he is being coached by Tony Roche.

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RESULTS: French Open, 2nd round. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3.

RESULTS: French Open, 3rd round. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3.

RESULTS: French Open, 4th round. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3.

RESULTS: French Open, 5th round. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3.

RESULTS: French Open, 6th round. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3.

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RESULTS: French Open, 8th round. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3.

RESULTS: French Open, 9th round. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3.

RESULTS: French Open, 10th round. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3.

RESULTS: French Open, 11th round. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3.

RESULTS: French Open, 12th round. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3.

RESULTS: French Open, 13th round. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3.

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RESULTS: French Open, 4th round. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3.

RESULTS: French Open, 5th round. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3.

RESULTS: French Open, 6th round. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-6, 7-5, 6-3.

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RESULTS: French Open, 11th round. J. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, J. McEnroe (USA) 7-

7.

11-11-77 - Mr S Campbell ?
 11-11-77 - J. Cates ?
 11-11-77 - JOHN RUMBER
 11-11-77 -
 11-11-77 - R. Bunker ?
 11-11-77 - J. Winstanley ?
 11-11-77 - Mr D East ?
 11-11-77 -
 11-11-77 - F.2 Capt. Murren, 4 Tins
 Late Contact.

E MURKLE (E54E 2m 00)
 11-11-77 -
 11-11-77 - R. Dunwoody
 11-11-77 - P. Williams
 11-11-77 - J. Lowley
 11-11-77 - R. Lacey
 11-11-77 - R. Lacey

1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26

4-10-4 P. Smith 7
 Last 4-10-4 P. Smith 7
 4-10-4 H.G. Higgins
 7-2 Mabel, 9-2 Oscar Last 5
 1 Cockerhatter Last

CHAMPION NOVICE
 Amateurs: 21, 22, 23, 24

8-13-0 Miss S. French 7
 12-17 K. Mizen 7
 12-17 Miss L. Jones 7
 12-17 J. Curben 7
 12-17 H. Mizen 7
 12-17 D. Ewell 7
 12-17 A. Foster 7
 12-17 Mrs. G. 12-17
 12-17 Mrs. F. Reed 7
 12-17 F. Curben 7
 12-17 Mrs. C. Ewell 7
 12-17 Mrs. C. Ewell 7

Just A Ghost, 9-2 Cam. All
 Chances

8: Bay Marengo: 2.0 Mals
 2.0 Hyspene Postgres.
 3.0 Captain Webster, 4.30 Just

ENHAM

SELLING HANDICAP
 1878: 2m 80yds (9)
 8-11-10 P. Smith 7
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5-10-4 J Downhard 7
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 5 Mr S. Cowell 7
 5 J. Winthrop 7
 5-12-5 C. Newman 7
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 8-11-8 NON-RUNNER
 11-9 7 Knapp 7
 8 Mrs L. Gibson
 8-11-8 N. Oliver 7
 8 P. Webster
 10-1-9 C. Marshall 7
 11-9 A. Bowley 7
 8 S. Andrews 4
 Market, 9-2 Fluffy, 11-2 The

7

1 R Sargent
 2 11-6 Miss J. Pomeroy 7
 3 7-11-8 R Towars 7
 4 1-8 A Bowley 7
 5 5-11-8
 6 5-13 M Curson 7
 7 7-11-8 Miss S. Tandy 7
 8 4-10-12 A Cope 7
 9 10-7 R Russ 7
 10 4-10-7 Miss Jutta Vesperette 7
 11 5 P. Jones Barnington, 8

WALES CUP CHASE
 1: 2m 55 110yd (10)
 1 12-8 R J. Beggan
 2 11-6 M Sargent 7
 3 11-6 P Wheeler
 4 11-6 Miss J. Moulden 7
 5 10-11-10 W. Walker 7
 6 11-6 A Bowley 7
 7 11-6 Miss P. Palmer 7
 8 10-11-6 C Morriscock 7
 9 10-11-8 P Tinsley 7
 10 11-11-8 P Handley, Jones
 11 10-11-8 Mr Knight, 8 King Service, 8

ICE HUNTER CHASE
 2m (15)
 1 Miss S. Betcher 7
 2 R Sargent 7
 3 6-12-4
 4 5-0 A Paine 7
 5 1-8 Miss I. Gilman

[illegible]

1-2-0 A Parker 7
 4-1-0 W Walter 7
 1-1-0
 1-1-0
 6-1-1-0 J Sharp 4
 11-0
 4, 5 Mraquest, 7 Mrament

HANDICAP HURDLE
 2m: 80yds (12)

7-11-12 S Butler 7
 4-11-11 Gucimere 7
 4-11-11 R J Snopce
 4-10-11 (7 ex)
 7 Bessworth 7
 10-10-10 S Dickin 7
 10-1-4 P Dennis 7
 10-1-0 R Bernal 7
 10-1-0 N Oliver 4
 10-1-0 Miss Macquoy 7
 10-1-0 Miss J Vespale 7
 6-10-4 S Meehan 7
 10-4-0 Miss S Yardley 7
 10-4-0 Mrs Charvis 7-2 Disher, 5-2

1985 (By Handicap): 2:15
 2:25 Mrs Annery, 4:13 W
 1985 Charvis.

Court of Justice of the European Communities

European Parliament + Council	bring this action. The Commission withdrew in the proceedings, in	the conduct of the pre-contentious procedure was also rejected.	specified by the Treaty. Thus, for example, the Treaty left	transport services within a member state, as envisaged by article 75 (1)	It followed that, on that point, the Council did not have the discretion.	international transport to or from the territory of a member state	free provision of services in the field of transport of persons
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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Daville

BBC 1

6.00 Cee-fax AM. News headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletins. Also available to viewers with television sets without the teletext facility.

6.50 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Debbie Greenwood. Weather at 6.55, 7.25, 7.55, 8.25 and 8.55; regional news, weather and travel at 8.57, 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27; national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 8.55; sport at 7.20, 7.45 and 8.25; pop music news at 7.32; consumer report at 8.15; a review of the morning newspapers at 8.37; and Russell Grant at 8.45. Plus Jobs 85 - the search for jobs throughout the UK continues.

8.20 Bonanza. Ben is seriously injured and when Little Joe goes to town for assistance he is shocked by the heart-healed reaction of the people (1). 10.10 Chigley. A See-Saw programme for the very young (1). 10.25 Play School. The guests are John Lauchlin and Stuart Bradley (1).

10.45 Film: Lassie Come Home (1943) starring Roddy McDowall, Donald Crisp and Elizabeth Taylor. The first of the Lassie films finds the canny canine being sold off by his poor owners to a Scots nobleman. Obviously not relishing the crumbs from the noblemen's table, Lassie decamps and makes her way back to her original Yorkshire home. Directed by Fred M. Wilcox.

12.10 Film: King Elephant (1971). A wildlife film, shot over a period of two years, featuring the elephant herds of Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania. Filmed and directed by Simon Trevor.

1.40 News with Frances Covernale. 1.45 Grandstand. Introduced by Bob Wilson. The line-up is: 1.50, 2.30 and 3.05 Racing from Cheltenham; 2.10, 2.45 and 3.20 Golf: the final round of the Whyte and Mackay PGA Championship; 3.50 Final score. 5.10 Disney Time. Clips from the Walt Disney Library presented by Las Dennis and Dustin Gee.

6.00 News with Frances Covernale. 6.15 London Plus. 6.20 Jim's Fix It's Tenth Birthday. Jimmy Savile meets some of the people for whom he fixed it over the past decade.

7.00 Wogan. The guests are Catherine Bach, of Dukes of Hazzard fame, comedian Brandon Grace, author Kit Williams, and a pop group, Five Young Cannibals.

7.35 Film: Silver Bears (1977) starring Michael Caine, Cybill Shepherd and Louis Jordan. Comedy thriller with Caine as Doc Fletcher, a financial wizard working for the Mafia. He is sent from Las Vegas to Switzerland to organise the 'laundering' of some loot. On his arrival he is shattered to learn that his contact, an impoverished member of the Italian aristocracy, has misappropriated the funds and sunk the money in a worthless mine. Fletcher decides to save himself from the wrath of his superiors by organising a complicated financial cross and double-cross. Directed by Ivan Passer (Cee-fax).

9.25 News with Frances Covernale. 9.40 Night of 100 Stars. Introduced by Barry Norman. Highlights of an occasion recorded in February at New York's Radio City Music Hall when a galaxy of stars performed, for charity, before an audience of 8,000 people. As well as a feast of music and comedy there was a number of novelties: including a fashion parade, composed by Joan Collins, featuring Raquel Welch and Linda Evans.

11.45 Weather.

TV-am

7.00 Good Morning Britain - a Bank Holiday Special, presented by Tommy Boyd, Arabella Warner and James Baker. News at 7.00, 8.00 and 9.00. The guests include David Cassidy, Rod Harris and obituary, the Eurovision Song Contest winners. In addition, the AA's David Marsh has latest traffic news; there is family film news from Charles Gollings; gossip from the pop world; and a ride on the Cobra, a high-speed roller-coaster in Worcestershire.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Sesame Street. Learning made fun with the Muppets. 10.25 Walt Disney Presents. Pests of the West and Arabian Diary, two cartoons.

10.35 Film: Robinson Crusoe (1972). A Russian-made version of Daniel Defoe's famous adventure story starring Leonid Duryav and Irina Kazanovich. Directed by Stanislav Govorukhin.

12.00 Junior Gymnast of the Year. Eight boys under 16 years of age compete in the 1985 Junior World Championships. Previous winners of this competition include Terry Bartlett, an Olympic team member and Sally Larner the first British winner of the Coca Cola International Gold Medal.

1.00 News. 1.05 Bank Holiday Sport Special. Introduced by Jim Roenthal. The line-up is: 1.05 Sports Desk; 1.10 Golf: the Memorial Tournament from Mullfield, Virginia, Ohio; 2.00 Sports Desk; 2.10 The TV Set; 2.15, 2.45 and 3.45 Racing from Cheltenham; 2.10, 2.45 and 3.20 Golf: the final round of the Whyte and Mackay PGA Championship; 3.50 Final score. 5.10 Disney Time. Clips from the Walt Disney Library presented by Las Dennis and Dustin Gee.

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11.45 Weather.



Selji Ozawa: Tanglewood (part 2) BBC 2, 8.35pm

BBC 2

6.55 Open University: Education: The Standards Debate. 1 Ends at 7.20.

9.00 Cee-fax. 10.00 You and Me. A See-Saw programme for the very young (1).

10.14 Cee-fax. 2.05 Film: Orphan Train (1979). A sentimental made-for-television tale, based on actual events in the 1930s when Emma Symms shepherded a train full of destitute children from New York to the Midwest to find people to adopt them. Starring John Elkenberry and Kevin Dobson. Directed by William A. Graham.

4.20 Motor 100. The first of two programmes celebrating 100 years of motoring, presented by Noel Edmonds from Silverstone.

5.10 Names and Games, presented by Simon Bates, with Anneka Rice and Fern Britton, from Kemptown Park. Celebrities representing Musical Chairs, Presenters and Children's Television is a competition for the Ever Ready Trophy. The trials include chariot races, hockeys, canoes and jet skis (1).

6.00 Movies: The Silent Lovers - Garbo and Gilbert. The last of three adaptations from Garson Kanin's best selling novel about Hollywood. Kristina Waymon stars as Garbo and Barry Corbin as Gilbert. In this story which chronicles the love affair between the two stars which started when they played opposite each other in the film Flash and Devil, made in 1928 (1).

7.35 Entertainment Switzerland, presented by Jonathan King. Mr King finds entertainment in a finishing school; with a Swiss Army knife; and interviews David Frost.

8.30 It's Not Cricket. A preview of the five day drama facing the history of the notorious 'bodyline' tour of Australia by the English cricket team in 1932/3.

8.35 Tanglewood. The second of two films on the celebrated New England music school features young conductors attending a master class by Selji Ozawa, Kurt Masur and Leonard Slatkin. With contributions from Leonard Bernstein and Andre Previn. (see Choice).

9.25 Film: Death in Venice (1971) starring Dirk Bogarde, Bjorn Andresen and Silvana Mangano. Bogarde is superb as Gustav von Aschenbach, a composer who arrives at the Lido at the turn of the century, intent on reviving his flagging spirits. He becomes obsessed with Tadzio, a young boy who, to von Aschenbach, embodies the grace and purity that the composer has been searching for all his life. Directed by Luchino Visconti.

11.30 International Golf. Highlights of the final round of the Whyte and Mackay PGA Championship. 12.05 Weather.

CHOICE

SO YOU WANT TO BE A CONDUCTOR (BBC 2, 8.35pm), part two of Herbert Chappell's documentary about Tanglewood; the Massachusetts summer school for aspiring musicians, concentrates on baton waving. Inevitably, some of the apprentices come in for a fair amount of stick from the scorers. Indeed, so frequently do the maestro interrupt the embryonic Ozawas, Masurs and Slatkins (if they go unchecked for more than two bars, they're lucky), that it seems probable they will never be able to see the Tanglewood for the trees. One particularly promising young man, taken through the opening bars of the Beethoven No 6 by Mr Ozawa, does not get much beyond such basic principles of stick control as the point in a circular motion when the baton ought to begin. Finally, Mr Ozawa's practised hand and that of his pupil are

synchronized in an identical swing. I felt like cheering, though not so much with admiration as with relief. Mr Chappell's marvellous documentaries have shown that Tanglewood, in its pastoral setting that is equal to Dainton's or Glyndebourne's, will take some beating as a centre where, as some sensitive soul said in last night's film, the worldly cares of fledgling musicians are washed away. Also recommended tonight: END OF EMPIRE (Channel 4, 9.00pm) deals with arms, and specifically the topping of Mossadec. Well may you wonder what all this has to do with the main aim of the series - to trace the path of the sun as it sets over the British Empire. Substitute the oil derrick for the Union Jack, however, and the imperial connection is

Radio 4

DEATH IN VENICE (BBC 2, 9.25pm). Visconti's exquisitely painful representation of the Thomas Mann novella, is scarcely traditional Bank Holiday fare. If that is what you want, there is NIGHT OF 100 STARS, on BBC 1 (8.40pm), an American razzmatazz event that should not get out of hand as it is Barry Norman who will be overseeing the coverage on behalf of the more conservative British viewer... Some really dreadful songs, sung by people who are far better as actors, make THE UNKNOWN BEN BAGLEY (Radio 4, 11.15pm) a collector's item. Sheridan Morley has rescued Mr Bagley from obscurity. Any man who can persuade Katharine Hepburn to trill a bad city for 100 dollars is worth at least a footnote in musical history.

Peter Daville

Radio 4

5.55 Shipping. 6.00 News briefing. 6.15 Farming Week. 6.25 Prayer. 6.30 Today, featuring 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News. 6.45 Business News. 6.55, 7.55 Sports. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the day. 8.35 The Week on 4. Programmes previewed by Simon Vance. 8.45 Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (new series). Abridged in five parts, and read by Simon Vance. 9.00 News: The Mozart Inquest. An inquiry into the composer's death by the public gallery: Ten Rice (1). 10.00 News: Money Box. With Louise Satterthwaite. 10.30 Morning Show: 'Miss Seavard' by J. H. Morris. The reader: Elizabeth Power. 10.45 Daily Service. (New Every Morning, page 54). 11.00 News: Travel. The Thatcher Phenomenon. Hugo Young examines Mrs Thatcher's social policies in the fourth of six programmes. 11.30 Soundings. Tom Harrison investigates the appeal of soap operas. 12.00 News: You and Yours. Consumer advice, with Paul Heiney. 12.27 Frank Muller Goes into 'The World of One'. The reader: Alfred Marks. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World of One. 1.40 The Archers. 1.55 Shipping. 2.00 News: Woman's Hour. A special edition that is devoted to education in schools. Read by Frederick Forsyth. 11.30 Sean Barrett. It is called Used in Evidence. 3.00 The Unknown Ben Bagley. Sheridan Morley traces the career of the detective of lost songs. (1). 4.15 5.45 pm News: Weather. 12.33 Shipping Forecast. 5.15 (available in England and S. Wales only) as above except: 5.55-6.00 pm Weather. Travel. 5.55-6.00 pm Listening Corner. 5.55-6.00 pm (continued). 11.30-12.00 News. 12.00-12.15 News. 12.15-12.30 News. 12.30-12.45 News. 12.45-1.00 News. 1.00-1.15 News. 1.15-1.30 News. 1.30-1.45 News. 1.45-1.55 News. 1.55-2.00 News. 2.00-2.15 News. 2.15-2.30 News. 2.30-2.45 News. 2.45-2.55 News. 2.55-3.00 News. 3.00-3.15 News. 3.15-3.30 News. 3.30-3.45 News. 3.45-3.55 News. 3.55-4.00 News. 4.00-4.15 News. 4.15-4.30 News. 4.30-4.45 News. 4.45-4.55 News. 4.55-5.00 News. 5.00-5.15 News. 5.15-5.30 News. 5.30-5.45 News. 5.45-5.55 News. 5.55-6.00 News. 6.00-6.15 News. 6.15-6.30 News. 6.30-6.45 News. 6.45-6.55 News. 6.55-7.00 News. 7.00-7.15 News. 7.15-7.30 News. 7.30-7.45 News. 7.45-7.55 News. 7.55-8.00 News. 8.00-8.15 News. 8.15-8.30 News. 8.30-8.45 News. 8.45-8.55 News. 8.55-9.00 News. 9.00-9.15 News. 9.15-9.30 News. 9.30-9.45 News. 9.45-9.55 News. 9.55-10.00 News. 10.00-10.15 News. 10.15-10.30 News. 10.30-10.45 News. 10.45-10.55 News. 10.55-11.00 News. 11.00-11.15 News. 11.15-11.30 News. 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